JOHN BULL, JANUARY 21, 1928 Vol. XLIII. No. 1127.

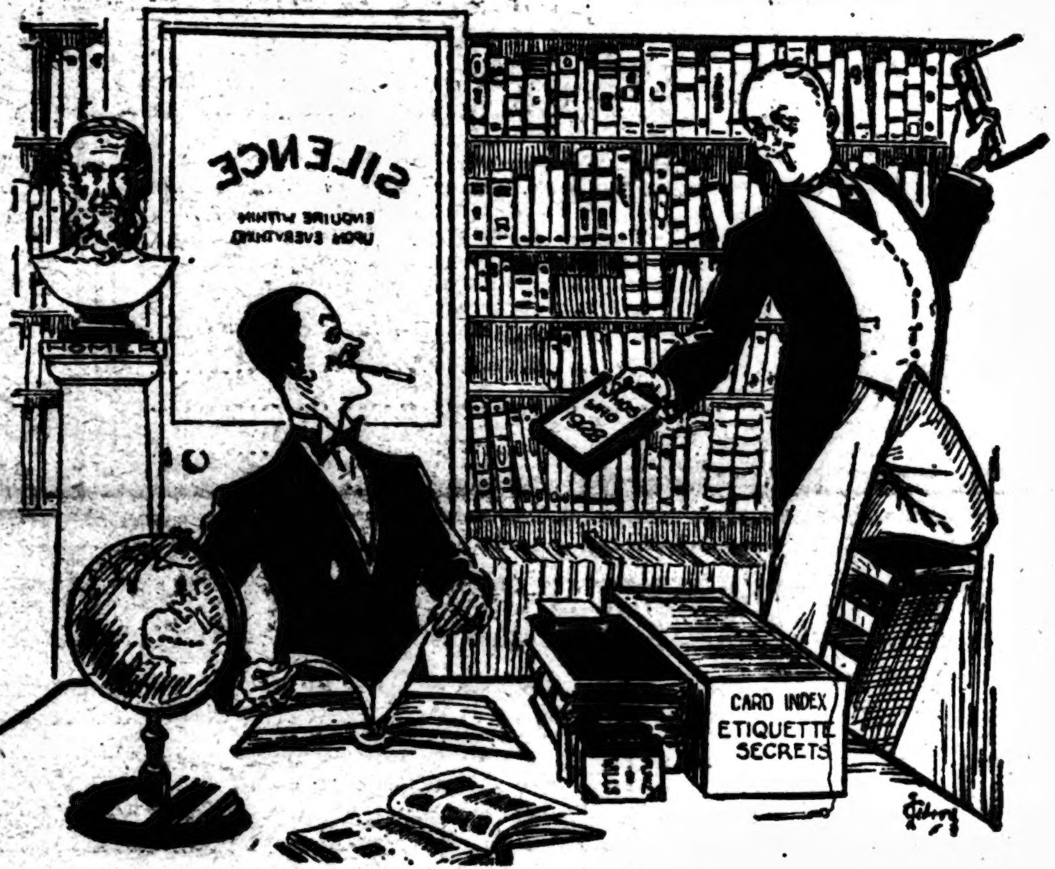
JOHN BULL

TWOPENCE

OVER A MILLION CERTIFIED SALE

GOLD & FLAKE—INFORMATION BUREAU

(c/o *W. D. & H. O. WILLS, Bristol*)



SILENCE
ENQUIRE WITHIN UPON EVERYTHING
CARD INDEX ETIQUETTE SECRETS

"What is the difference between
SLANDER *and* LIBEL, *Mr. Gold?"*

"Here's a correspondent who says that someone has written a slander."

"A curious mistake which betrays ignorance, Mr. Flake. A slander is by word of mouth, a libel is written."

"Then, Mr. Gold if I write to someone else and say that you are one of those men without WILLS of their own —"

"That would be libellous, Mr. Flake. It would be a reflection on my good taste in smoking."

ISSUED TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE MERITS OF
WILLS' "GOLD FLAKE" CIGARETTES

B.G.273

JOHN BULL'S UNIQUE PEN OFFER

A 2/6 Everpointed Pencil
FREE
with every "John Bull" Pen.

Cash the Coupons!

JOHN BULL'S
Pen Coupon Value 2d

This Coupon will be accepted as 2d. in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/- Lever Filler Pen fitted with 14 ct. gold nib, iridium tipped, with which is presented FREE a 2/6 Ever-Pointed Pencil. Additional Coupons any number up to five (six in all), ANY DATES, may be cut from "John Bull," and will be accepted in part payment. Thus you may send six Coupons and p.o. for 4/5 (which includes postage and insurance). Pocket Clip 3d. extra. Cross cheque/p.o. "& Co." Make payable to "John Bull." State if fine—medium—broad nib.—JOHN BULL Pen Dept., Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

YOU MUST HAVE THE RIGHT DIET.

One point on which ALL Doctors are agreed is that to maintain or regain really good health you MUST have a properly regulated and balanced diet.

All those who would like a little free expert advice on this very important subject should write at once to the great health expert, Eustace Miles, M.A. (Dept. D.B.J.) 40, Chandos Street, London, W.C.2, who has given permanent relief of various ailments and troubles to many thousands and has put them on the straight road to physical and mental fitness. Write name and address in capitals, and enclose 1½d. stamp for postage.

Don't Wear a Truss!

BROOKS Appliance is a new scientific discovery, with automatic air cushions that draws the broken parts together, and binds them as you would a broken limb. It absolutely holds firmly and comfortably and never slips. Always light and cool, and conforms to every movement of the body without chafing or hurting.

From a photograph of Mr C. E. Brooks, inventor of the Appliance who cured himself and whose experience has since benefited thousands. If ruptured write to-day.

We make it to your measure, and send it to you on a strict guarantee of satisfaction, or money refunded, and we have put our price so low that anybody, rich or poor, can buy it. Remember, we make it to your order—send it to you—you wear it—and if it doesn't satisfy you send it back to us, and we will refund your money. That is the way we do business—always absolutely on the square—and we have sold to thousands of people this way for the past ten years. Remember we use no salves, no harness, no lies, no fakes. We just give you a straight business deal at a reasonable price.

If in Manchester or London call at our consulting rooms. Experienced and capable fitters for ladies or gentlemen. Special attention given to children. Lady nurses always in attendance at both offices.

Free Information Coupon.

Brooks Appliance Co., Ltd. (387R), 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2
Brooks Appliance Co., Ltd. (387R), 274, Deansgate, Manchester.

Please send me by post, in plain wrapper, your Illustrated Book and full information about your Appliance for the cure of Rupture.

NAME...

ADDRESS...

(Please write plainly) ....

Post the coupon to London or Manchester, whichever you prefer.

Aspirin is superseded by DAISY

FOR ALL

NERVE PAINS

Because aspirin depresses the heart and upsets the stomach and Daisy does neither.

Because Daisy goes direct to the spot—the nerve centres. Proved by the fact that aspirin is no good for severe nerve pains.

Because Daisy contains a medicine many times as costly as aspirin. This is for safety and efficacy.

Because Daisy is pure, highly standardised, and a truly refined product, yet costs no more than other medicine less safe and less effective.

Because medical opinion prefers Daisy for headache, neuralgia, and nerve pains.

Dr. Robertson Wallace, the well-known Medical authority, says:

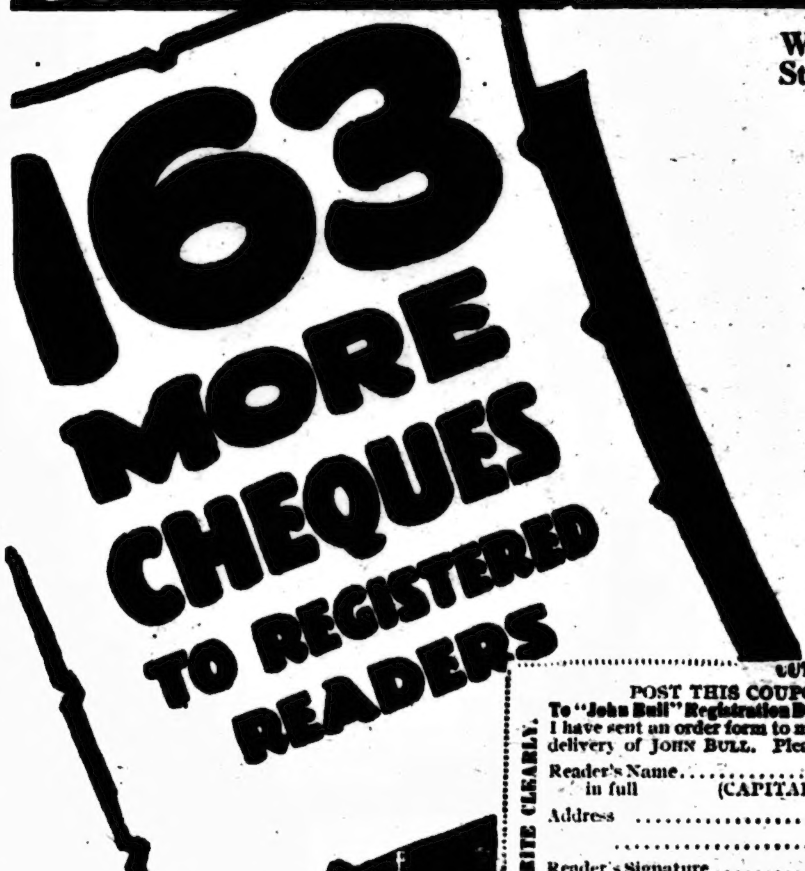
"I lay great stress on the efficiency and safety of Daisy. It is an unusually costly formula at a reasonable price."

Banish the Severest Pain in a few minutes.

Take Daisy at any time for Splitting Headache, Nervous Headache, Sick Headache, Women's Headaches, Neuralgia, Tic, Earache, Toothache, and all Nerve Pains. Sold everywhere, 1/1½d. per box of six powders. Single Powder, 2d.

Daisy, Ltd., Leeds.

JOHN BULL'S GREAT FREE INSURANCE GIFT



We give below a few only of those who benefit this week. Against Fire, Storm, Sickness, Accidents, etc., 'John Bull' covers you free. Register Now!

FIRE
UP TO £400

TOPSHAM, EXETER.—Mr. T. BERRY, 2, Quay Cottages.
WINCOBANK, SHEFFIELD.—Mrs. G. LANGFORD, 48, Barrow Road.
MILTON, PORTSMOUTH.—Mrs. N. E. SMITH, 37, Hollam Road.
PECKHAM, S.E.15.—Mrs. A. M. M. SMITH, 57, Meeting House Lane.
EDINBURGH.—Mr. J. J. HISLOP, 50, George Street.
BECKINGHAM, DONCASTER.—Mr. H. P. WRIGHT, High Street.
PAISLEY.—Mrs. A. DOYLE, 15, Sir Michael Street.
UPPER RACE, PONTYPOOL.—Mr. JOE SAMPSON, 7, Maunds Row.
BLACKMILL, GLAM.—Mrs. M. SMITH, 20, Pantyrnawell.
CAERAU, Nr. BRIDGEND.—Mr. P. NEAGLE, 2, Coegnant Road.
WINDSOR.—Mrs. FORMAN, 126, Clever Hill Cotts., Clever Road.
STONEHOUSE.—Mrs. J. BEATTY, 36, Lawrie Street.

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FLOODS!
UP TO £300

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GALSTON, AYRSHIRE.—Mrs. W. COLLINS, 11, Wallace Street.
TREHAFOD, PONTYPRIDD.—Mrs. W. EDWARDS, 25, Cyfeillon Road.
CARDIFF.—Mr. G. W. STEEL, 25, Fairfield Avenue.
FLEETWOOD.—Mrs. W. SMITH, 27, Addison Road.
BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Mrs. A. KNIGHT, 11, Florence Street.
Nr. PONTYPRIDD.—Mr. F. W. POLLARD, 34, Cyfeillon.
HALTON, LANCASTER.—Mrs. M. LAWRENSON, White Lion Hotel.
CRICCIETH, N. WALES.—Mr. R. WILLIAMS, 3, Abermarchnad.
FLEETWOOD.—Mrs. R. SMITH, "Towneley," Poulton Road.
GREENFORD, MIDDX.—Mr. F. WILKINS, 28, Costons Avenue, Greenford Hall Estate.

ACCIDENT
BENEFITS
£3 PER WEEK

ABERDEEN.—Mrs. H. TAYLOR, 50, Urquhart Road.
STEVENSTON, AYRSHIRE.—Mrs. A. MURPHY, 44, Carmelat Drive.
PRESTON.—Mrs. H. DOYLE, 122, Manchester Road.
FULHAM, S.W.6.—Mrs. A. CRESSY, 10, Kilkie Street.
ROCHDALE.—Mrs. R. WEBSTER, 1, Signal Place.
ROTHERHAM.—Mrs. E. COAKLEY, 18, Mary Street.
PORTSMOUTH.—Mrs. A. ROGERS, 61, Kilwinston Street, Lake Road.
HOMERTON, E.9.—Mrs. D. HOBBS, 32, Oriel Road.
BINGLEY, YORKS.—Mrs. GREENWOOD, 10, George Street.
RISCA, MON.—Mrs. L. CHURM, 41, Park Place.
FRIZINGTON, CUMBERLAND.—Mrs. ELIZABETH HEAD, 1, Barwise Row, Arlecdon.
LEITH.—Mrs. A. O. BURT, 15, Thorntree Street.

CUT HERE

POST THIS COUPON TO "JOHN BULL."

To "John Bull" Registration Department, Long Acre, London, W.C.2

I have sent an order form to my newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

Reader's Name in full (CAPITAL LETTERS.)......................... Age..........

Address ....

....

Reader's Signature ....

Name and Address of Newsagent ....

....

Date........ ....

J.B., 21/1/28.

Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A certificate setting out the full benefits and conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d. stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for return.

CUT HERE

HAND THIS COUPON TO YOUR NEWSAGENT.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

To (Name of Newsagent) ....

Address ....

....

Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature...

Address...

Date........ ....

J.B., 21/1/28.

"Try this, it stopped my Rheumatism"

Your friend, your neighbour, or your doctor would tell you that Rheumatic Pain should be stopped as quickly and completely as possible.

Do not suffer from Rheumatism in any form. The timely use of Sloan's Liniment stops the pain, prevents complications. Gently laid on the painful part it penetrates and quickly brings an invigorating stream of freshly purified blood tingling through the affected tissues. The *cause* of the pain is driven out—relief follows.

Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, Neuritis, Sprains, Cramp, Backache, Stiffness, all yield to the soothing influence of Sloan's Liniment. Clean and easy to use; penetrates without rubbing.

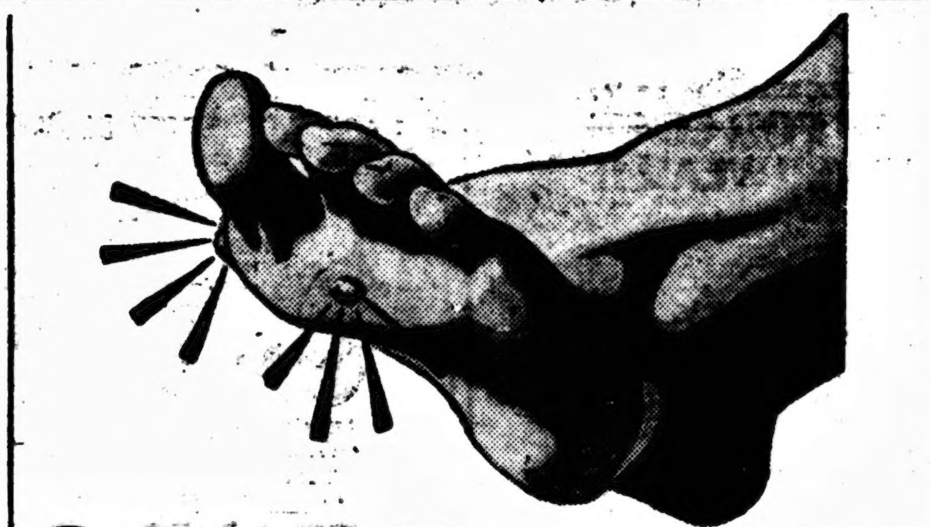
"Free from Racking Pain."

"I had almost given up the attempt to cure my rheumatism, but after using Sloan's Liniment was free from the racking pains of rheumatism.—Mr. W. White, 128, Cherrywood Road, Bordesley Green.

Of Chemists and Stores, 2/- and 4/-.

Wholesale Depot: Fassett and Johnson, Ltd., 86, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.1.

Sloan's Liniment
KILLS PAIN



CORNS Gone—Root and All

Corn sufferers! Here's a warning against painful corn cutting and useless corn "cures." This gentleman has tried both and found them wanting. Here, too, is the best advice—from one who has proved what he says. Five Radox footbaths removed his two bad corns. Why not let Radox banish yours? Read the letter:

> *I had two very bad corns right on the soles of my feet. I tried cutting them and also several other corn cures on the market, but in a couple of days after they were as bad as before. In two weeks I used Radox five times, and you can imagine how pleased I was when the corns came right out from the root.*
>
> *A. C. (Birmingham).*
>
> *24th November, 1927.*

When you put your feet into a footbath containing Radox the salt softens the hard outer layers of the corn, and the oxygen which Radox liberates enters the pores, opens them and penetrates further and further, carrying the corn softening salts right to the root of the corn, which is thus loosened so that it can be lifted out bodily. The life-giving oxygen leaves the feet clean and healthy.

Ask for Radox at your chemist. Price 1/6 per Half Pound Pink Packet, 2/6 double quantity.

1/6 *Half Pound Pink Packet.*

Radox Bath Salts

Give Your Feet that "Kruschen" Feeling

'Flu relieved in 24 hours

YEAST IS LIFE

AN eminent specialist, in his article on Health, has emphasised the importance of Vitamin B as a tonic which causes the nerves to function properly. And in his list of essential foods he mentions YEAST as rich in Vitamin B.

YEAST - VITE IS RICH IN VITAMIN B.

When out of sorts or depressed, take 1 or 2 YEAST-VITE Tablets, and feel fresh and frisky in a few minutes.

THIS Wonderful Yeast-Vitamin Treatment is guaranteed to be safer, quicker and more effective than Aspirin. Composed of pure medicinal Yeast, Vitamins and other valuable ingredients. Prescribed by leading medical specialists. The gentle fermentation of Yeast-Vite when in contact with the gastric juices of the stomach causes a stimulating buoyant feeling of extreme vigour.

Irving's YEAST-VITE Tablets will relieve:—

Influenza Colds, Fever	in 24 hours
Headache, Neuralgia, etc.	in 5 minutes
Indigestion, Flatulence ..	in 5 to 10 minutes
Biliousness, Dizziness, Depression	in 10 to 15 minutes
Disordered Stomach, Liver, etc.	in 10 to 15 minutes

CAUTION.—See the name Irving's Yeast-Vite on every carton and bottle. Refuse fraudulent substitutes which are worthless.

Irving's Yeast Vite Tonic Tablets

OUR GUARANTEE.

Obtain a 1/3 Bottle of Irving's YEAST-VITE Tablets from your chemist. If not thoroughly convinced of the wonderful power of these Tablets BY ACTUAL RESULTS, post the empty bottle to us, and we will refund the money by return of post.

IRVING'S · YEAST · VITE · LABORATORIES
CECIL HOUSE, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON, E.C.1

Asthma Bronchitis Catarrh and Whooping Cough

The moment you inhale Potter's Asthma Cure that maddening cough stops, your breathing becomes easy, your days are comfortable and you enjoy restful nights. The relief is immediate and extraordinary. Potter's Asthma Cure is entirely free from opiates and does not cause headache. *It is wonderful for the Bronchitis of Children.* Of all chemists 1/6 or post free 1/9 from Potter & Clarke, Ltd., 60, Artillery Lane, London, E.1.

POTTER'S ASTHMA CURE

When outdoors smoke Potter's Asthma Cigarettes, 1/3 for box of 12, or Smoking Mixture in 9d. tins.

HAD NO PEACE NIGHT OR DAY

Terrible Rash On Body. Cuticura Healed.

"A terrible irritating rash broke out on my body, limbs, arms and hands. The skin was inflamed and I got no peace night or day. I could not work, sleep or eat; in fact I had to stay in bed for weeks. The trouble lasted a year and three months.

"I tried several remedies but they did not help me. I read an advertisement for Cuticura Soap and Ointment and sent for a free sample. After using it I purchased more and now I am completely healed." (Signed) Mrs. Mary H. Sibley, 4, Sunningdale Cottages, Hillingdon, Middx., Eng.

Use Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum for daily toilet purposes.

Soap 1s., Ointment 1s. 3d. and 2s. 6d., Talcum 1s. 3d. For sample each address: F. Newbery & Sons, Ltd., 31, Banner St., London, E.C.1. Try Cuticura Shaving Stick 1s. 3d.

WHEN SENDING
Write name and address in block letters. Give exact description of goods required. Send money and Treasury Notes by registered post. Always mention JOHN BULL

THE MAIL ORDER MARKET
A Perfect Postal Service for Bargain Hunters

PAY FOR COAT AS YOU WEAR IT

Most wonderful bargain of the year. Made from ALL WOOL Cheviots. These are not semi-made Coats altered to fit you, but EACH ONE is CUT AND MADE TO YOUR OWN MEASUREMENTS. Delivered on payment of First instalment of 6/- and then pay 6/- monthly until you have paid in all 42/-. Also SUITS from 52/6, and DINNER JACKET SUITS from £4 4s. All made to Measure, and on similar easy terms. Irish and Colonial orders cash only. Before placing your order elsewhere, send for Catalogue, Patterns & Self-measurement Form. Money refunded if unsatisfactory. Established 28 years.

J. B. THORNE & Co.
36, LANGHAM ST., LONDON, W.1

BIGGEST VALUE IN FLOOR COVERING
NOTE NEW LOW PRICES
90 SQ. FT. for 15/-
THICKER THAN LINOLEUM
Waterproof, Rotproof and Sanitary. For either Brick, Stone, Concrete or Wood Floors. Being stainless, a damp cloth is all that is required to clean it. In rolls containing 90 square feet for 15/-. Longer lengths pro rata. All rolls are two yards wide.
Send for Free Samples.
J. B. ANDREWS & SONS,
38, Carter Street, London, S.E.17.
PAROLEUM

The Slide SAXOPHONE
LEARNT BY ANYONE IN ½ HOUR
POPULARLY known as the "SWANEE-SAX" (*Reg.*), and selling in thousands in America, this new reed instrument gives real saxophone effects. Can be mastered in a few minutes and played by ear or from music. No keys to manipulate. Solidly made, nickel plated. Height 20 in. Supplied for 5/- deposit, 6/6 C.O.D., and 4 monthly payments of 12/- (59/6 in all), or 50/- Cash, with Free Tutor and extra reed, etc. Carrying cases 6/9 each. Send now or write for descriptive pamphlet.
Easy Tutor FREE
5/- DOWN
WALLINGFORD'S
(Musical Dept.),
71, Oxford St., London, W.1.

CATESBYS CORK LINO
Catesbys Cork Lino is the ideal floor covering. Can be cut to exact size required—without interference with patterns at joins—has lasting qualities, requires no scrubbing, is hygienic and inexpensive. Free samples of quality, Design Book, and Complete Prices—Cash and Easy Terms Free on application to
CATESBYS LTD (Dept. K.10), Tottenham Ct. Rd. LONDON, W.1.

AMERICAN OFFICERS' GLOVES
Much imitated but never equalled.
THESE ARE THE GENUINE YALE GLOVES.
Strongly made of soft Tan leather, processed to resist hard wear and remain soft after wetting.
Warm wool lined 4/6
Post on 1 or 2 pair, 6d.
(Money-back guarantee.)
DEEP MILITARY STIFF GAUNTLET OF DOUBLE LEATHER.
Take advantage of these gloves now, as it would be impossible to produce at less than treble our price.
Trade supplied.
NUTTALL
1, Goodmayes, Ilford, E

WRITE TO-DAY FOR CATALOGUE POST FREE
Wonderful!
FIRST PAYMENT ONLY → 2/-
Price from £4'4'0
For the finest value in the world in Ladies' or Gents' cycles, see the "Bradshaw" illustrated catalogue of twelve different models supplied on the easiest of easy terms.
BRADSHAW STORES LTD.,
DEPT. 4, NORTHAMPTON.

WHIPCORD TROUSERS
Made from our renowned IRONCORD CLOTH SPECIALLY WOVEN FOR HARD WEAR. In plain Dark Grey or neat Stripes. Fully cut and well made with P.T.U.'s. A pair will be sent for 5/6 together with a free range of patterns of our famous GENT'S SUITS at 19/6, and D.B. OVERCOATS at 18/11.
5/6 POSTAGE 6d. extra.
Send waist and inside leg measurements.
Over 40 ins. waist 1/- extra.
J. WINGO LTD.,
25, NORTON FOLGATE,
BISHOPSGATE, LONDON.

The Bucks Furniture Mfg. Co. Ltd. having absorbed Lloyd's Postal Shopping Service
ARE now offering unprecedented bargains in upholstered furniture and Dining Room Chairs, giving you the rare opportunity of purchasing at manufacturer's prices. Stock includes THE FAMOUS
"WYCOMBE"
SUPER EASY CHAIR.
Also the well-known Artoleum Floor Covering
81 sq. feet for 15/-
Write for full descriptive list.
83, GRAY'S INN RD., W.C.1

FREEMANS
Celebrated SPARE TIME AGENCY
CASH OR CREDIT
Boots, Gent's and Ladies' Clothing, Suits, Coats, Costumes & Underwear, Carpets, Lino, Drapery, Gramophones, Wireless, Bicycles, Jewellery, Watches, Clocks, China, Toys, Baby Carriages, etc.
Men in regular employment appointed as Agents.
Largest stock in the trade. Liberal supply of samples. Highest Commission paid.
NO OUTLAY. ALL PROFIT.
Enquiries for Agency Invited.
LAVENDER HILL, LONDON.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED
GRAVES 'BENEFIT' BALE
Unrivalled Bargain Offer.
Comprising: 2 white super-quality Fleecy Blankets, Blue borders, weigh 7lbs; 2 coloured Fleecy Blankets, White borders, weight 8lbs; 1 coloured Alhambra Quilt, weight 3lb; 2 unbleached Grey Bolton Twill hemmed Sheets, weight 6lbs; 2 White Pillow Cases, 1 White Bolster Case. All double bed size. 50/-
5/- NOW
TERMS: Send 5/- now, and 9 monthly payments of 5/-. Fullest approval in your own home. Catalogue Post Free.
J. G. Graves Ld. Sheffield.

Daintica**r**
Worthy of the Occupant
SALE! During our Sale we are, as an advertisement, offering a limited number of GENUINE DAINTICARS at greatly reduced prices. This new model as illustrated for
£2 : 19 : 6
(or 6/- monthly). Ribbed Cushion Tyres 10/6 extra. Numerous other models at similar reductions. *Send at once for illustrated list post free from*
VICTORIA CYCLE & CARRIAGE CO.,
(Dept. P.S.) 11, Victoria St., Westminster, S.W.1

THIS SUPERIOR CHARLESTON UKULELE
Complete Outfit with extra Strings.
FOR 1/- DOWN
For WONDERFUL FREE GIFT, see advt. under 'Bargain Sales' on page 5.
Entertain your friends with this glorious Jazz Instrument—the craze of Europe and America. With Free self-tutor you can play those haunting Plantation Melodies in one hour. Handsome instrument mahogany-polished Cedar, natural Cedar fingerboard, rosewood pegs, Mother-of-pearl inlay. 1/- with order, then 2/- weekly (15/- in all). Send To-day.
F. HAND & CO., 29, New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1

GRAVES WIRELESS BARGAIN
This highly efficient 2-Valve Loud Speaker Set is the finest Wireless Value ever offered
10/6 NOW
Volume and quality of tone are unsurpassed. Simplicity itself. With coils for long & short wave-lengths. CABINET of polished Oak, & components of highest quality. Dull Emitter Valves, with patent valve holders, &c.; H.T. Battery, 2-volt accumulator; Loud Speaker of exclusive design with improved mica diaphragm; and complete Aerial Outfit, £7:17:6
Terms: 10/6 now, 13/6 Monthly.
Catalogue Post Free. J.G. Graves Ld. Sheffield

COD LIVER OIL
Direct from Grimsby
Pure Cod Liver Oil made so palatable by a special process, even the most delicate children take it readily. Buying direct
SAVES YOU SHILLINGS.
No middle profits, and you have freshly packed oil.
Send 3d. in stamps (to cover postage) for very generous free sample and fullest instructions on "Emulsion Making at Home."
BRITISH ISINGLASS Co. Ltd
MARINE BY-PRODUCT MFRS.
270, HOPE ST., GRIMSBY

Cover your FLOORS
at sensational low cost!
81 SQ. FEET 15/-
Handsome, damp-proof, hard-wearing. Great choice of patterns. All rolls 2 yards wide. Value positively will delight you. Great selection of Linos, Inlaids, etc. Catalogue including other useful household goods sent free. Money refunded if not delighted.
SEND a P.C. for FREE
ROLLS STORES,
86, Gray's Inn Rd.
London, W.C.1.

"Bullets" Prize-winners

(Continued from page 39.)

£2 10s. Winners:

L. MOUSLEY, Mount Pleasant, Hill Top, Notts.
THE OLD YEAR—PREPARED EXPLORERS FOR ANYWHERE.

A. SHAYLER, Union Chapel House, Compton Avenue, Islington, N.
SENT TO PRISON—DEBTORS—MUST AMUSE BANKRUPTS.

F. TIBBETTS, 60, Broad Green, Wellingborough.
THE OLD YEAR—WIFE "HEARD *That* OUT."

W. TIMMIS, 9, Albert Road, Ilford, Essex.
WHAT THE MANAGER SAID—UNLESS IT PROVES WRONG.

200 "Bullets" Hamper Winners

(Addresses abbreviated owing to pressure on space).

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List of full names and addresses of 200 Hamper, 100 10s., 200 5s. and 500 2s. 6d. winners can be seen at the offices of "John Bull."

ADVANCE EXAMPLES FOR COMPETITION No. 66

TELLING THE WORLD
WHY BRITAIN'S GREAT
HAVEN OF PEACE
FINGER IN THE PIE
FOR MANY
HERO OF TO-DAY
DANGER SIGNAL
UNHAPPY
"I TOLD YOU SO"
LOVELESS MARRIAGE
PACE THAT KILLS
OUR POLICEMEN
CRUEL FATE
SINCE THE FLOOD
BADLY MISSED
LIKE A MACHINE
UP AGAIN
MOTHER'S COOKING
FORMERLY
WHAT IS A FIRE?

(Continued on page 38.)

FOR SMALL TRADERS, SHOPKEEPERS.

THE BEST HOUSE In the Kingdom for Wholesale Drapery Bargains in Stockings, Fents, Ready-mades, Travellers' Samples, etc. Oldest, Cheapest and Best. Write to-day for Catalogue and Original A.B.C. Guide, Post Free. Cochrane's Wholesale Warehouse, 3, Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

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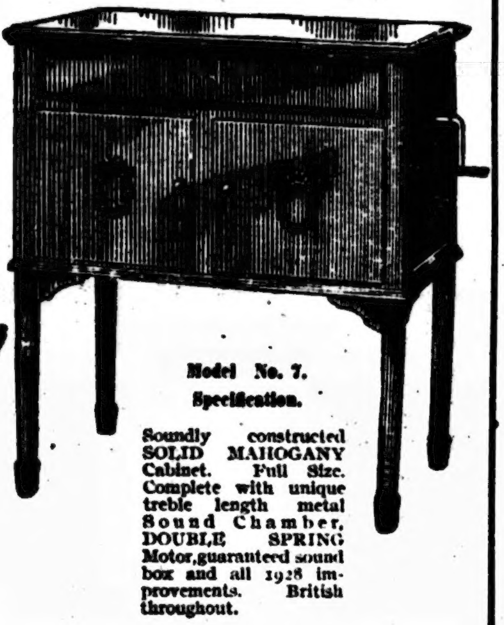

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The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

The Red Light.

There is more than meets the eye in the Ministry changes at the Board of Trade and the Mines Department. The Government intends to revise its policy in the shipping and coal industries. Both are seething with discontent.

New Brooms.

Mr. H. G. Williams, M.P., the new Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, and Commodore H. Douglas King, M.P., who succeeds Col. Lane-Fox as Secretary for Mines, are comparatively unknown men. They have a great chance to make good.

The Lesson.

Labour has "won" at Northampton, but the victory is nothing for either Party to boast about. Half the electors are still disfranchised, as half must always be in such three-cornered, irrational contests.

Towards the Dawn.

The pity is that thousands of men and women split on Party "labels" who have exactly the same hopes for the country's welfare. When they decide to vote for the issue and not for the "label" they can bring on the millennium.

Later—or Sooner.

The Conservative Party machine announces a "big push" to begin next autumn for the General Election in the following year. But it is arranged for Ministers to "stump" the country before midsummer. Just in case something happens suddenly!

So Bracing!

Baldwin gets eloquent over the inspiring effect of the Government leaving the nation to muddle through "on its own feet." But when a ship is in difficulties it is hardly correct for the captain to call out, "Every man for himself!"

Coming.

When the election comes even the Government's friends will attend its obsequies without sorrow. To see unlimited power being wasted in idleness has disgusted everybody.

Paper Prosperity.

If Parliamentary promises are kept, the new session will be busy about nothing much. Greyhound racing will occupy quite a lot of time. So will mechanised Army developments. But—what about coal?

Hurry Up.

One bit of legislation may pass this session without controversy, the Registration of Nursing Homes Bill. It is a reform we have urged for years. It is long overdue.

Way of the Wind.

Markets display cheerfulness, textiles in demand, fine spinners firm, says a northern expert. Yet in the cotton districts matters go from bad to worse. It's amazing.

Damming the Tide.

Lancashire millowners seem determined to follow mineowners in killing the goose that lays their golden egg. To lower wages and lengthen hours is a vicious policy of bankrupt imagination. We're not living in early Victorian days.

Nothing Stands Still.

In refusing to move with the times and imbibe its new spirit, employers show a stupidity that is astonishing. Even those who have made money stand to lose it if industry is ruined. Employed and employers stand or fall together these days.

The Birthday.

The League of Nations is now eight years old. Those who deride it as ineffective are fools. It has made the whole world think in terms of peace, the vital first step to the real thing.

Traitorous.

Absolutely wicked is the suggestion that Great Britain should "withdraw" from Geneva. If movements and treaties made there are not in accord with our best interests the fault lies with our delegates. They go in the wrong temper.

Good.

All denominations, including Church of England, are joining in a religious demonstration against war. Belated allegiance to Christianity is better than none. Had its followers been faithful, war would have vanished ages ago.

Sure Thing.

Those who attempt to forecast the next Budget all decide on one thing. There'll be no new taxation. That's an easy prophecy. The country couldn't bear up against one extra penny.

Do It Now.

The demand for the restoration of the penny post grows stronger. The Postmaster-General would do well to concede it. It's just the fillip tottering trade is needing. Cheap postage would help a lot.

Sea Breeze for Industry.

British shipyards last year doubled their output—over 1925 as well as 1926—while the output of foreign yards stood still. With shipowners again in the market, quality tells.

Losing Ground.

On the other hand, orders lost to Britain last year include fifty bogie wagons, sixty steel wagons, and 202 engines. Quite a lot of work to keep a lot of workshops going, if only a little elasticity of price had been considered.

Tariffs.

"Everything costs more in Canada simply because a huge duty is put on everything," says a Canadian. Exactly. Tariff walls do more than keep trade out. They make home living a sheer struggle for bread.

Enterprise.

Sixty-eight representative Canadian farmers, with bankers and Government officials, are visiting Europe to study conditions and open up new markets. They know how to get a move on, something we are in danger of forgetting.

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"Bullets" First Doubled!

We've only just increased "Bullets" First Prize to £300—now we've doubled it to £600 for this week only. Turn to page 39 and double up with your "Bullets."

Needed Work.

Twenty-three thousand acres will be added to Britain's woodlands by March, according to a forestry expert. We want wood and we want cultivated land. At present the latter is declining.

Still Ravaged.

During the war 500,000 acres were bared, and planters are only now thinking of repairing the damage. Meanwhile we annually import some £50,000,000 worth of timber, nearly all of which could be grown in this country.

General Post.

The Board for the "transfer of labour" has now been set up. What it expects to achieve is a puzzle. Running men from one part of the country to another may be amusing. It does nothing to set ruined industry on its feet.

Nothing Doing.

Meanwhile the new Board is inundated with applications for appointments, but none are being made. The thickest understanding should be able to see that unemployment isn't solved by the creation of a lot of new, fancy jobs.

Both Wanted.

Everybody talks of town-planning, but rural-planning is equally necessary. A planned countryside would save the nation from unemployment and poverty, with their attendant gloom.

To Those Who Mourn.

Words are poor to express all we feel with regard to London flood victims. Yet we tender survivors our sympathy, and assure the bereaved that we share in their sorrow. Tragedy lies in the thought that it need not have happened.

Common-sense.

Basement houses must go. Rehousing the poor is a land question. The land must be put on the forefront of all programmes at the next General Election.

Practical.

The Salvation Army has dried hundreds of mattresses for flood victims and given new ones where needed. We salute it for that bit of help anyway. It's real Christianity.

Evidence.

Six hundred farmers whose wills have been proved during the past eighteen months left estates to the value of twelve and a half million pounds. There's still money in farming. It's only the little man who goes bankrupt.

Poverty.

It is the actual worker who finds agriculture hard work poorly paid. With a family to keep on a wage of 32s. a week, many men do not even get proper nourishment.

Reckless Mating.

Over one hundred women have applied to the Mayor of Nottingham for marriage with a young Australian who wrote wanting a wife. That many of the letters were "sensible" doesn't argue a sensible mind. It's always folly to leap in the dark.

The WORLD, the FLESH & the DEVIL

Will to Work.

We like the sound of the Swansea boy who, just left school, walked to Cardiff in four days to find work, and succeeded in getting a job on a trawler. Determination in face of difficulty has made many a name in history. We wish him success.

Let Them Go.

The Manchester Corporation must hasten the selling for scrap-metal of its local guns and tanks, described by members of the Parks Committee as repulsive and useless. As reminders of the war spirit, we pronounce them actively harmful.

Fatal Neglect.

A Sunderland coroner's jury found that the accident that cost the life of Esther Davison, glass flattener, was partly due to lack of a proper fence round certain machinery. Need we state a hope that the firm in question has already installed one?

"Jerks" for Jail-birds.

The Governor of Winson Green Prison, Birmingham, is not alone in approving the introduction of gymnastic exercises in jail. A healthy body is a big step towards the healthy mind that every prisoner on hearing the gates clash behind him should exhibit.

No Swanker.

In contrast to William Hewitt, a Hull schoolboy, who, boasting of his bravery, dashed on thin ice and was drowned, Thomas William Milne, after risking his life to save the lad, disappeared without anyone hearing his name. We hope he will always ally courage with modesty.

Showing the Way.

Abertillery is not sitting down under the difficulty of having many boys over seventeen who have not done a stroke of work since leaving school. We wish the recently opened training school, numbering eighty unemployed between the ages of fourteen and eighteen, a rich harvest of "candidates placed."

Poverty a Crime.

That the law is still inclined to treat poverty as a crime the case of a poor old Llandudno man amply proves. Nearly seventy he is, and because he owed 10s. he was unable to pay he was taken to Walton and placed in a prison cell. The cost of executing the warrant was £2—money that might have been better spent.

Power Regained.

Twenty ex-Service men, settled in a beautiful house and garden at Leatherhead, are producing weekly three hundred electric "blankets," capable of airing and drying as well as warming. The ex-Services Welfare Society is complimented on recalling the precious power of work in those who thought they had lost it for ever.

It's Magnificent.

At Aldershot, a rag-sorter found a dozen £5 notes in old garments, and finding the address of the owner stamped on them, returned the lot to the bank. A man who doesn't miss £60 for five years—the length of time his old coat had lain at the dealers—can afford to give away the lot. That honest rag-sorter deserves it.

In Safe Hands.

We are glad Edith Rosson, of Regent's Park, is under the care of the West London probation officer. Of respectable family, but reduced to stealing 5s. to back up lies told to her mother and young man, she stands at nineteen at the parting of the ways. Home influence must also be used if she is to pursue the straight path.

Real Chum.

Unable to swim, Patrick Wentworth was sinking in Cardiff dock when his chum, John Patrick Foley, attracted by shouts, plunged into the water, whence, after heroically battling for ten minutes, he extracted him. Congratulations to Wentworth on his escape and the retention of a friend who indeed stuck closer than a brother.

No Roof.

Living by day in a disused lime-kiln, sleeping at night in a wood, Mrs. Woodthorpe, at seventy-six, died of heart failure from exposure. A more rigorous insistence on the use of casual wards is not thereby argued. We believe fewer deaths from sleeping out would occur if the money lavished on institutions were spent on keeping the destitute in their own cottages.

Vicious Training.

The luckiest woman in Preston is Mrs. Alice Wilson. Not only did she steal silk remnants, value £5, but had her thirteen-year-old step-daughter helping her in the shop with a covered basket. Previous good character has secured her a £10 fine, but the debt she owes her husband's child cannot be settled except by setting her an honest example forthwith.

Lonely Death.

With names befitting an emperor, Frederick Augustus Wyatt, aged eighty-five, exercised an emperor's right to die under his own roof, and passed away in a hut he had made himself in a wood near East Grinstead. His dread of and refusal to go to the workhouse is a strong indictment of charity that forces the destitute into one building and teaches them to be ashamed of it.

For Baby's Sake.

While walking in a storm, Miss Elizabeth Ottley, seventy-five, a famous Windsor character, took off her big cloak and handed it to a poor woman who was carrying a baby. Before she reached home Miss Ottley was drenched, bronchitis developed, and she died, though till then she had not had a serious illness in her life. "She gave her life for a baby" would be an ideal epitaph to place upon the tombstone of that noble old lady.

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The Human Machine

Keep Out!

by E. R. THOMPSON, M.A.

I HAVE been thinking lately about that old saying that "God gave us memory that we might have roses in December."

It is rather a beautiful thought; but it has a danger to the unthinking, for like most sayings it only tells half the truth.

Memory may very well give us roses in December—but it does much more than that. It builds the future out of the past—and tells us to look forward to the reality of June roses once more.

Memories can be treacherous friends—particularly pleasant memories. They can pin us so firmly to the past that we forget to look to the future, forget very often even to live in the present.

The past can be a millstone round our necks if we allow it. It can shackle us and bind us—even though the fetters be of roses—and prevent our making any progress.

THE only use of the past is to build the present and carve the future.

"Keep out of the Past. It is lonely,
And barren and bleak to the view;
The fires have gone cold, and its stories are old—
Turn, turn to the Present—the New;
To-day leads you up to the hilltops
That are kissed by the radiant sun,
To day shows no tomb, life's hopes are in bloom,
And To-day holds a prize to be won."

If there has been anything pleasant in the past don't sit and dream about it: press on to the time when it shall repeat itself in the future.

You can't control the past—and don't let it control you.

Mould the present to your will—and build the future as you would have it be.

Bent on Crime.

Sentencing Francis Brown Wood, a young miner, to three years' penal servitude for breaking into twenty houses since August, the Sheffield Recorder said it seemed that the offender had made up his mind to live by crime. Criminals can only be scotched by the wise upbringing of children that renders such a state of mind impossible.

Another Down-and-out.

Without money to get a stamp to write home or food for himself, and having the gift of £1 stolen from him while in a faint from the shock of receiving it, the Wrexham Bench was right in discharging Sidney Bennett, charged with leaving his wife and children chargeable to the union. His job is that of travelling exhibition salesman. Can no one help him?

What Fools!

In the middle of the wagon way of a main incline at the Spawood Ironstone Mine, Albert Calvert and Oswald Leather fixed a large iron bar to throw tubs off the track. They thought of making a little overtime for themselves, but had to pay 50s. each, and were lucky to escape so easily. Their rash act imperilled the lives and limbs of others, and might have led to the mine being closed.

Strong Indictment.

Sir Arthur Wheeler, the Leicester financier, finds that boys leaving school "can't write, their figures are shocking, and they have to begin all over again before they can fight the battle of life." Strong words, which should cause thought at the Ministry of Education. There's something sadly wrong when of stacks of replies to advertisements of jobs only one here and there can even be read.

Poor Mother-in-law!

"I will cut you up like cat's-meat and think nothing of it" is a nice thing to state to one's mother-in-law. The wonder is that Albert Bradshaw, a Sutton waiter, who has already served twelve months' hard labour for a similar murder threat, and is described as a man with a dangerous obsession, should have to be sent to five years' penal servitude. Mental treatment is his obvious need.

Sad Come-down.

To have come safely through the war merely to wander, serving as a labourer, from place to place, finally to lead three young fellows into trouble, steal £1 from his lodgings, and be sent to two months' hard labour for housebreaking and theft, is the unfortunate record of George Walsh, of Norwich. Had he been trained and placed in regular employment after demobilisation this might never have happened.

Princely Gift.

The foundation-stone of the cottage hospital given to Mitcham, Surrey, by Mr. Wilson, of that town, has now been laid by his wife. Not less than £60,000 is represented in this splendid contribution to the common weal, which includes the site and also a large part of the endowment fund. Mitcham is fortunate. The gift from the living giver is always doubly valuable. It brings thoughts from a heart still warm.

"Service Not Self."

That the L.C.C. Abbey Wood Tramways Depot Benevolent Club lives up to its splendid motto, "Service Not Self," was proved by the fact that recently the members entertained a thousand poor children from the schools in Woolwich borough. An excellent tea was provided, after which the kiddies listened to a concert, and on leaving each was presented with a toy, an orange and a bag of sweets. Well done, the trams!

Starved by the State.

Ministry of Health Commissioners administering relief in the Bedwellty Union have over-ridden the recommendations of doctors and refused to give extra relief urged by the doctors. Conditions are so terrible in some miners' homes that when the fire of slag from the mine tips goes out the children huddle together in the ashes to keep warm. Meanwhile Cabinet Ministers fear that Russians may corrupt the poor with Communist ideas!

Getting On With It.

Orders for "improved" types of torpedo-carrying aeroplanes to replace those in general use are now placed by the Air Ministry. Soon even the new type will be out-done and still more frightfulness evolved. That's the whole tragedy of the ghastly business of war. It grows by its own power of rivalry.

Negative Result.

The Industrial Fatigue Research Board finds that, contrary to complaints, sickness in mills where the air is kept humid is not more than in mills where the air is dry. That is satisfactory, but it does not convince us that to work in air that is always damp is satisfactory. That health can be fully preserved in such circumstances is against all human experience.

We Agree.

We have every sympathy with Mr. Angus Macrae, Investigator to the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, in his contention that intelligence tests are superior to ordinary school examinations for deciding ability. Sheer fright prevents many children doing themselves justice in examinations. The most glib at answering are not always the ones with best brains.

Sad Lack.

At Gloucester Quarter Sessions, when Charles Eric Purves, clerk in holy orders, was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment for offences against boys, convincing evidence of his mental instability was given. The gravity of these border-line cases grows. Not certifiable as lunatics, there is no half-way house for their treatment. Prison as a cure is worse than useless.

Robert Speaks.

It is noteworthy that in the annual report presented by the Manchester Police on street accidents, 55 per cent., of the seventy-two fatal accidents in their streets last year were due to carelessness on the part of victims. We hold no brief for reckless or indifferent drivers, but pedestrians must remember that we live in a machine age. To forget means that life pays the forfeit.

Money Sense.

In binding over a boy of twelve accused of stealing money from a church offertory-box, the Market Bosworth magistrates found the misguided generosity of motorists the cause of the lad's downfall. For opening gates he often made 15s. a day. When money fell off he stole. A child's education should include the rights and wrongs of both getting and spending or it is sadly lacking.

Thieving Trip.

Two months each in the second division will teach Robert William Roberts and his brother Morris, cattle-dealers of Merionethshire, brought up at Marlborough Street on a charge of shoplifting, that sneak-thieving is not encouraged as a London amusement. The two, owning a good position in life, apparently took goods "for fun." On release they will do better to take "Act nobly" for a man's motto, and live up to it.

The Big Sister.

Self-preservation is the first law of Nature, says the scientist, but Christianity says that love is greater than Nature. Thus, when a lorry crashed into a number of children in Shepherd's Bush, Elsie Thomas, aged nine, of Lilac Street, who was carrying her step-sister, aged three, put her own body as a human shield against the lorry and held the baby out of harm's way. Elsie was picked up dying from under the lorry, but the baby was unharmed. She died a hero's death.

Great Shopkeeper.

From a tiny shop in Drury Lane, Mr. J. Sainsbury saw his business develop into a family concern, owning 100 London shops alone and worth nearly £1,500,000. Not even the fact that, after dying at eighty-three, he was accounted Britain's greatest shopkeeper does his memory credit so much as the testimony of one who sold him tens of thousands' worth of material in forty-five years without a contract. "A man whose word was as good as his bond" was a real man.

Persistent Pastor Penrose.

It has come to our notice that John Penrose is at present conducting a lucrative tour of Ireland, advertising in local papers as the "Great United Evangelistic Tent Mission." When people query his credentials, his friend Pastor Hurst, of the London Evangelistic Mission, obligingly sings his praises. Both Hurst and Penrose are former disciples of Pastor Matthews, of the Northern Evangelists, who has often been exposed by us.

Mother's Infamy.

A Norfolk widow, Mrs. Maud Mary Bean, of Fen, Dilham, was found guilty of conniving in the betrayal of her own sixteen-year-old daughter, who in consequence had become a mother. The Bench considered it a very bad case, and sentenced the woman to the maximum punishment of two years' hard labour. We have no sympathy with so unnatural a creature, and trust the girl will never again be brought under her bad influence.

Wiseheads and Greenhorns.

Many attractive benefits are offered by the Worthy Order of Wiseheads, of 22, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., ranging from an aeroplane trip to a grand piano, and from a wireless set to a motor-car. Before you send 1s. for an "initiation ticket," however, consider these facts. You are also required to sell three other initiation tickets on "snowball" lines, and the only address quoted is an accommodation one where letters are called for!

War's Victims.

Penniless and without work, Arthur Seaman, his wife and seven kiddies, owed less than £2 for rent, and were evicted from their little home at Selby in arctic weather. They starved in an old stable for nights before Mrs. Seaman and her bairns were admitted to the workhouse. Her husband broke windows to obtain prison shelter—after serving with the 20th Hussars, and being several times wounded. What an indictment of war!

Christmas Cruelty.

We think Mr. Clarke Hall was justified in taking a serious view of the case against the L.M. and S. Railway, which was charged with carrying twenty-eight turkeys in an overcrowded condition. Six of the birds were dead when the crate was delivered in Whitechapel, and of the others one was too exhausted to stand. The R.S.P.C.A. is deserving of thanks for prosecuting, and the fine of £10 with £8 8s. costs was by no means too stiff a penalty.

Outside the Law.

From a wee mite in the care of Miss Marsh, foster-mother, of Burgess Hill, Nancy Schicle, at eleven, pined away from emaciation and tuberculosis within twelve hours of being admitted to Brighton Children's Hospital. Since Miss Marsh has three other nurse children over seven, who are therefore ill-advisedly not within the Children's Act, will not the N.S.P.C.C. keep its eye on her? What are our women M.P.s about that the law has not already forestalled the work of charity?

Masked Mug-hunter.

A gentleman who conceals his features under a mask is now touring London in a two-seater car, complete with chauffeur. At intervals he orders his chauffeur to stop, while he disposes of sixpenny surprise packets to curious spectators. He drives away before the purchasers can examine their packets, which are found to contain a twopenny trinket and a printed slip imparting the information that W. Murden, of Swinton Street, W.C., is "England's leading Turf adviser." No wonder he sports a car and chauffeur!

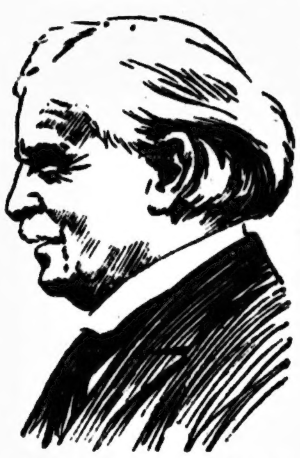
"JOHN BULL'S" FREE INSURANCE GIFT
163 more Cheques
To Registered Readers. *See page 2.*

Problems of Life

Respect for Age

by the Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, D.D.

SOME public interest has been aroused by the fact that about four hundred thousand new recipients of the old-age pension begin to draw benefit in 1928. The announcement reminds me of an episode that occurred during a visit which I paid to Ireland in company with a friend in the summer of 1913.



The Rt. Hon. D. Lloyd George

We were touring in Connaught and managed to get over to Achill Island, where we engaged an old man for a few hours as a guide.

He was a gentle old fellow, courteous in manner without being cringing, and full of interesting anecdote and reminiscence.

In the course of conversation he asked, "Do your honours know Mr. Lloyd George?"

He pronounced the name "Lyde Jarge."

I answered that I had the privilege of knowing the statesman a little.

"Then," continued the old Irishman earnestly, "will you tell him that if ever he comes to visit these parts the old men and women will gather and kneel down and pick the stones away from before the wheels of his car?"

THE white-haired peasant who thus spoke is probably dead now, and I am not sure what effect the setting up of the Irish Free State has had on the condition of those who, like himself, were saved from want and suffering by the social legislation of the Asquith Government in the days immediately preceding the outbreak of the Great War, followed by the civil war in Ireland.

He explained his words by adding that when people in his station of life grew old and past work they were sometimes felt to be an encumbrance by their children and treated badly in consequence.

He had had to know, he said, what it was to eat his bit of bread in bitterness and to be grudged his seat in the chimney-corner by his daughter-in-law, who often taunted him with being a useless burden.

The family to which he belonged was abjectly poor, so perhaps the feeling of a struggling woman was but natural, though cruelly expressed.

Now all was different and he blessed the name of the man to whom he thought he chiefly owed his deliverance.

UNFORTUNATELY, the tendency of youth to forget or undervalue what it owes to age still finds some expression in these days.

Contempt for elders is too common, and much ingratitude is mingled with it.

This spirit is said to be increasing among the younger generation; if so, it is a bad sign.

"Let no man despise thy youth" is an excellent maxim; but not less so is the ancient saying, "Children's children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children are their fathers."

AMAZING DIPLOMATIC HOAX

CROOK'S ASTOUNDING COUP

A Right Royal Rogue

SOME little time back an imposing personage, giving the name of Vicomte de Beney, presented himself at Buckingham Palace, with a forged diplomatic pass, and begged audience with the Duke of York.

An equerry intercepted him, however, and though the credentials had every appearance of being orthodox, he was surprised at the extreme youth of the Vicomte and thought his array of medals and decorations rather suspicious in consequence.

He therefore arranged for the visitor to call again, and took advantage of the interval to institute certain enquiries. The result was that when the Vicomte returned, he was arrested, sent to jail for three months, and subsequently deported.

Before this, however, the bogus diplomat had turned his Buckingham Palace coup to account by imposing upon various first-class hotels.

Daring hoax

At one establishment he ran up a huge bill, and, on being asked about settlement, he shrugged his shoulders and asked to be put through to Buckingham Palace on the telephone.

As soon as the call came through, he asked for the equerry by name. "My letter of credit has not arrived from Brussels," he said for the management to overhear, "and I shall be glad if you will arrange to advance me some cash at once."

In this way he completely bamboozled the hotel authorities.

Now, the most scandalous aspect of the foregoing daring hoax lies in the fact that the Vicomte was a man who had already been deported on many previous occasions.

On one occasion he appeared at Southampton as Captain Otto de Benney, and called upon the managing director of an aviation company.

Representing himself as an important member of the Belgian Air Force, and producing a mass of bogus documents, he explained that he was empowered to enter into a contract for the manufacture of machines for Belgium.

Having established confidence, it was not long before he succeeded in obtaining a substantial sum of money on a false letter of credit. He also made a tour of inspection of certain R.A.F. depots and obtained money by worthless cheques.

Lavish living

He next appeared at the Hyde Park Hotel and engaged luxurious rooms, where he proceeded to entertain on a lavish scale.

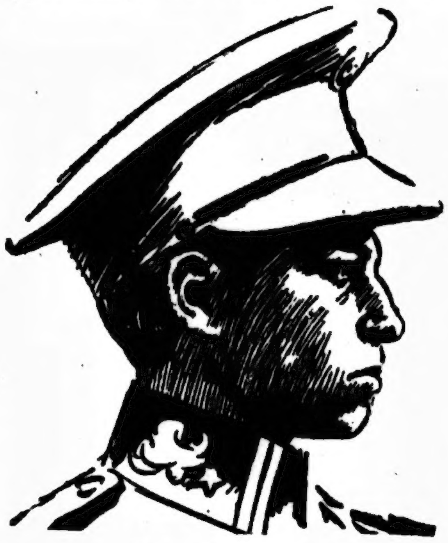
Finally he disappeared, leaving a very heavy bill unpaid, but not before he had induced many victims to advance him money, and had victimised other establishments. Eventually he was run to earth and again deported.

Although only twenty-seven years of age, he is an international crook of astonishing attributes. His real name is Otto Stephanne, and he mostly uses Otto as a surname. He also boasts a long string of Christian names—Kopenick, Stephen, Victor, Joseph, and Noel!

He is a Belgian, his father being a labourer in Brussels.

When the army claimed him during the war, his bright mentality won him an appointment as an orderly-room clerk.

He was not slow to grasp the opportunity for studying the deportment and mannerisms of the superior officers at close range, and the wayward streak in his nature now became apparent.



Otto Stephanne

Claiming a throne

At first he started in a small way, borrowing money from the Belgian soldiers, who expected favours from him in his privileged position.

When the war ended and Otto found himself transferred to Brussels for disbandment, he was lucky enough to be granted a position as military clerk in the Royal Palace itself!

Here, again, he kept ears, eyes and brain ever on the alert and rapidly became accustomed to the pomp and pageantry of Court routine. And all the time he studied the high Court dignitaries and military celebrities.

But for his wayward streak, he might have achieved much. As it was, he suddenly pronounced himself a claimant to the Belgian throne, and, attiring himself in a uniform resplendent with many decorations, travelled about the Continent posing as the son of the Baroness de Vaughan, the morganatic wife of King Leopold of Belgium.

In many cases he contrived to obtain money and goods by fraud, until his brazen imposture was exposed by the Baroness and others, and he was sent to prison.

By this time, however, he had perpetrated the greatest hoax in the annals of military etiquette.

He drove ceremoniously to the headquarters of the American army on the Rhine one day, and, cutting a superb figure in his much-decorated uniform, informed the officer commanding the American forces, that he was Major Vicomte Joseph de Beney, Attachè to the Court of King Albert.

His Majesty, he explained, had been graciously pleased to confer the Croix de Guerre upon the general in recognition of his great services to Belgium. Being occupied with affairs of State, however, His Majesty had sent the Vicomte as his deputy!

Feted on all sides

For days Otto was feted on all sides and elaborate functions were arranged in his honour.

Finally, when a march-past had been arranged, to include all the American soldiers on the Rhine, he ascended a dais and dramatically pinned a medal on the general's chest. Then he stood to attention and took the salute as the troops marched past!

The bogus Vicomte was far away before this gigantic hoax was discovered, and, incidentally, had taken with him all the money on which he could lay his hands!

With the Belgian police now hot on his scent, he went to Constantinople as resplendent as ever and armed with false credentials.

He now posed as an emissary of King Albert's Court, engaged upon a secret mission to Turkey. He lived lavishly and obtained a great deal of money by fraud.

Finally, when endeavouring to obtain money from the British Consul at Constantinople, suspicion was aroused, and he was forced to flee the country.

Since then he has operated in Germany, Spain and France, posing in the latter instance as "Lord Ashton," and pretending to be a secretary engaged by the Prince of Wales to secure a residence for His Royal Highness. For this, he was sent to jail at Bordeaux.

Authorities hoodwinked

And now, incredible as it may seem, he has actually succeeded in getting back into this country, being armed with a faked passport in the name of D. Armanda.

He first went to Oxford, and, putting up at an expensive hotel, mixed freely with undergraduates to their ultimate financial detriment.

He next proceeded to Crewe, where as Lt.-Comr. Otto, of the Belgian State Marines, he pretended to be looking for an old schoolfellow, and borrowed money from a number of clergymen.

In the end it was discovered that he was in the country without permission. He was apprehended, convicted and "recommended" for deportation!

What is the good of deporting a man like this if, as we have shown, he can come back again at will, to swindle again and again!

We certainly think that some official enquiry should be instituted at once to ascertain how it is that our passport authorities have been so repeatedly hoodwinked.

They Bite Old Bait!

The Passing of Antonio

THE child with a juicy worm on a bent pin will often catch fish, while the angler with a five-guinea rod and an assortment of costly bait goes home empty-handed. And a good many crooks who angle for human fish know that old bait secures the most bites.

Take the experience of an Essex reader, who recently received a lengthy communication from an unknown "relative" in Spain.

All the usual elements of the "Spanish prisoner trick" were embodied in that letter, yet the frank way in which the facts were set forth completely disarmed him.

His unknown "relative" told the old tale of imprisonment for political offences; of a young daughter denied a father's care, and a fortune of £37,000 that perhaps the British representative of his family would be good enough to recover. A fourth part of that sum should be his reward.

Breaking sad news

The writer signed himself "Antonio Ridaura Orth," but stipulated that correspondence must pass through Ramon Lopez Colmer, of Puzol, Valencia, to keep the affair entirely secret.

When the "prisoner" wrote again, it was to throw out strong hints of failing health and to break the sad news that his daughter's departure for England had been delayed owing to the seizure of her "luggages."

A chaplain was negotiating on his behalf, but it would probably be necessary to pay a substantial sum to retrieve the seized articles.

The next communication came from the chaplain himself, Enrique Castro Colomer, of Barcelona, with the tidings of the prisoner's death.

"It is such the impression made on me that must pass a long time to disappair from me," wrote the worthy "Presbitero."

After allowing these first tidings to sink in, the chaplain wrote again to say that it would be necessary to pay £135 in order to secure the "seazed equipages."

Change of faith

"I advise you to do not send the sum in cheque," he wrote, "then it is not convenient that anybody knows from where is money I get to pay. You must send it in english Banknotes"!

And in a postscript, he thoughtfully suggested that perhaps an extra £10 could be sent to buy some dresses for "poor Mary," the deceased prisoner's daughter.

By a most fortunate coincidence, this last letter arrived the other week, when the issue of JOHN BULL then on sale contained a warning paragraph against this class of swindle. Our reader saw it, and was warned in time.

But he admits that he certainly was beginning to have faith in the letters. Now all his faith is in JOHN BULL.

AN ACTOR'S LURID RECORD

STRANDED REVUE GIRLS SCANDAL

Billy Merrick's Murky Methods

THERE is a gentleman now on tour with a theatrical production whose methods constitute a grave menace to any artistes who ill-advisedly sign on with him, and his managerial activities should be stopped at once.

His name is Billy Merrick, and the playbills of his show describe him as "the famous comedian." In view of his record in theatrical circles, "infamous" might be a more apt term.

He has latterly been conducting a production called "Keep It Going," though why he is permitted to do so, we do not know!

About a month ago Billy took "Keep It Going" to a theatre at Cross Keys, near Newport. Amongst his artistes were eight young dancing girls, who hail from Portsmouth.

They are professionally known as the "Eight Merton Girls," and with their matron, Mrs. Edwards, were boarded during the week at Cross Keys with a landlady named Mrs. A. Willsher, of Cobden Street.

Mrs. Willsher housed and fed the eight girls and their chaperone from the Sunday preceding the opening night to the Saturday on which "Keep It Going" was to move to another town.

Left stranded and homeless

On the Saturday evening, after a week at Cross Keys, Mr. Billy Merrick added to his "fame" by departing without paying his bills.

The eight young girls and their matron were left completely stranded, without wages, without food and without their fare to Portsmouth, which was no fewer than 220 miles away!

Other artistes went on with Merrick to another town in the hope that the next week might bring happier results.

Meanwhile, the "Eight Merton Girls" and their matron went to the local railway station in an endeavour to gather some news of the defaulting producer.

Dangerous plight

Their quest was fruitless, and they found themselves in a bitter predicament. For some time they were afraid to return to their lodgings because they feared that Mrs. Willsher would not take them in as her bill was not paid.

They could only wander about until a late hour, and some broke down and cried bitterly.

But Mrs. Willsher, although very hard hit financially, was not the type of woman to bar her door to them.

"I could not see such a lot of very young girls left out all night without food," she says. "It was very bad weather then, so I let them stay till Monday, when their fares were wired from Portsmouth."

Now, all these girls were quite young, and it is hardly necessary to emphasise the hazards to which they might have been exposed had it not been for Mrs. Willsher's goodness of heart.

And the landlady's kindness is rendered all the more laudable as, in addition to her own losses, her husband is at present out of work.

Some days after the stranded artistes had departed, Mrs. Willsher received a pencilled note from Billy Merrick, written on paper headed "Richards Productions"—which, it is interesting to note, is not registered at Somerset House and is quite unknown in theatrical circles.

In this note Mr. Merrick assured the victimised landlady that he had not forgotten his debt to her.

"You will *all* be seen to, soon as possible," was his curt way of pacifying her.

But over a month has now passed and, up to a few days ago, neither Mrs. Willsher, nor any of the other people who are similarly placed, have yet been "seen to."

Upon looking into the activities of Mr. Merrick and his "Keep It Going" Company, we find that this is not his initial lapse in this direction.

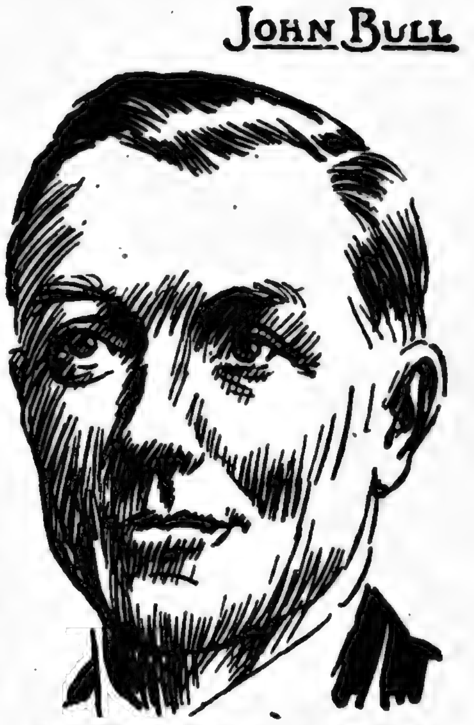
In various parts of the country landladies have been left unpaid, and several complaints have been made to the Variety Artistes' Federation concerning his activities.

Stop his licence!

Since the Cross Keys fiasco Mrs. Willsher has been visited by several poor landladies from other parts who have suffered at his hands.

We also find that the "Eight Merton Girls" were engaged by Merrick through their dancing mistress, Miss Mary L. Tonkin, of 11, Merton Road, Southsea, and, at the date of their being stranded, in December, had been employed for two months without receiving any salary at all!

Miss Tonkin has consulted her solicitors in the matter, though what success will attend her efforts we should not like to prophesy. Having been so badly let down by Merrick, she has had to borrow money in order to enable the girls to get work in a pantomime.



Mr. Hugh Roberts, a theatrical authority of the London County Council, whom we urge to oppose Merrick's licence at once

"It is a disgraceful thing to happen," writes Miss Tonkin, to whom Mrs. Willsher made an appeal.

We agree, particularly as he has a very bad record in theatrical circles, and, in our view, should not be allowed to tour without proper financial backing.

In these circumstances, we strongly urge the London County Council, and also the various theatrical organisations which have been set up to safeguard the interests of artistes, to oppose his licence at once.

Such a person is a bad enough menace even to experienced and time-hardened artistes; but should such a promoter be allowed to take young girls on tours extending many hundreds of miles from their home town?

A BENCH WITHOUT PITY

THOSE J.P.'s AGAIN

JOSEPHINE ROBINSON, a young girl of only twenty-three, has just been sentenced to two months' imprisonment at Bournemouth in circumstances that can only be described as shameful.

Josephine is an unmarried mother, and she was charged with having left her child chargeable to the common fund of the Bournemouth and Christchurch Union and, further, with having stolen an amount of £2 odd from her employer.

Her child, a daughter, was born in the Poor Law Institution, not exactly a pleasant setting for motherhood. Yet when Josephine Robinson took her discharge, she made a plucky attempt to rehabilitate herself.

She put her child out to nurse with a woman at Christchurch, and obtained employment as a cook-general.

Mother's distraction

It requires no exercise of imagination to realise her struggles, yet for some weeks the mother contrived to contribute 15s. a week towards her child's maintenance. But she could not keep up these payments and the child was returned to the guardians.

It was then, apparently in a fit of desperation, that the distracted mother misappropriated certain money that had been entrusted to her for the settlement of tradespeople's accounts.

Too big a job

Josephine pleaded "Guilty," and made no attempt to conceal her fault. "I found it too hard to pay 15s. a week for my baby," she said tearfully. "I had to keep her in clothing and buy a pram."

She also admitted that she took the money to pay her fare to Birmingham, where her own mother resided.

Was this a case for sympathetic consideration? Most people will share our view that it was; but we now come to certain aspects of the so-called "hearing" that should make everybody's blood boil.

A police superintendent was asked whether the prisoner had any previous convictions against her. She had not, but he went on to state that he had learned that Josephine had left various situations after money was missing, and that he understood that she frequented public-houses with men.

He further added that he thought the lady police-court missioner could tell the Bench something about the prisoner!

So, on the strength of all these suppositions, thoughts and rumours, the lady missioner was called before the Bench and a private conversation ensued.

Blot on justice

Finally, the chairman told the tearful Josephine that, having regard to her "record," they could not deal with her more leniently than in passing a sentence of two months' imprisonment in respect of each charge, the sentences to run concurrently.

It is outrageous to think that such a sorry scene could possibly be enacted in a British court of justice! Whatever sins of which this girl may or may not have been guilty, we are surprised that in the absence of any police record she should have been dealt with so harshly.

No real evidence

Prisoner's "record" indeed! The superintendent had just admitted that she had no police record, and even supposing he had grounds for his beliefs, his remarks should not have weighed with the court.

In the same way, Josephine Robinson was given no opportunity of learning what was said about her in the whispered conversation between the missioner and the Bench.

On the actual evidence before the court, Josephine Robinson was a first offender and there were many extenuating circumstances in her favour. We therefore think that the Home Secretary should intervene on her behalf without delay.

SPOT THIS MAN!

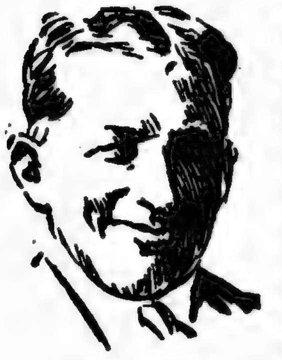
CHRISTIEN'S DAILY PREY

Quick-Fire Coups

TO dodge the police for months and to carry on still after exposure in JOHN BULL is no mean achievement. But no doubt this schemer will now soon be brought to justice

WHAT are the authorities going to do to curb the activities of that clever swindler, J. H. Christien, whose impudent coups, perpetrated in the name of the "British Road Users' Association," we recently exposed?

We ask this question for two reasons: one is that complaints have poured in to the police for some months, and the other is that, with amazing audacity, Christien has brought off some quick-fire coups *since* the appearance of our article.



J. H. Christien

At Boston, for instance, he called at an hotel and stated that his association, which was a most important concern, would be glad if the proprietor would agree to provide his motoring and cycling members with board and lodging at special prices.

He succeeded in interesting the management in the proposition, and then explained that it would be necessary for them to pay a sum of 15s. as a membership fee.

In return, Christien promised to forward a handbook, setting forth the aims and objects of the association, together with an official sign to hang outside the door. The fee was duly paid, but from that moment the Boston hotel has heard nothing more of the proposition.

Other people in the district are in a similar predicament, and Christien almost surpassed himself in impudence, for, within an hour of victimising the Boston hotel, he called upon the owner of an adjacent restaurant and complained bitterly of the same hotel's accommodation.

He was so dissatisfied, he asserted, that he would like to transfer the association's custom to the restaurant, which he declared to be infinitely preferable.

Uncanny immunity

In this way, he collected a second 15s. fee, and the proprietor has only just learnt how badly he has been taken in.

Although several warrants have been issued for Christien's arrest in connection with exploits of this kind, he manages to evade the law with an almost uncanny immunity.

Recently he has operated over a large area, extending as far north as Stirling and as far south as Dersingham. In some cases, too, he has taken apartments and has departed leaving his account unsettled.

In following up, his movements, we have ascertained that the non-existent British Road Users' Association is not the first swindling concern run by this individual, who we can now identify as a man with many aliases.

Wicked deception

Prior to his present swindle, he operated as the general secretary of a concern called the Southern Touring Club, the avowed object of which was to furnish insurance and advice to cyclists, etc. Whether it was a huge success or not, we do not know.

The headquarters of the Southern Touring Club were originally situated at High Street, Fareham, Hants, where there now resides a disillusioned woman whom Christien bigamously married.

He was convicted and sent to jail for this unchristian act, and some time later his real wife obtained a divorce.

The latter had been badly deceived by him from the very first, for, meeting him in France, when she was a twenty-year-old nurse, she quite believed the various facts he imparted concerning himself.

He then represented himself to her as the son of a High Commissioner, and a famous novelist; but they had scarcely been married many days before he returned to France.

Cheap board and lodging

The next time she saw him he was in Wandsworth Jail, where he was imprisoned for desertion.

Christien, who has also been in a Welsh jail for fraud, cut a pretty figure at Christchurch, where he owes money all round to people who were induced to place implicit faith in him.

One of his victims there is a boarding-house keeper, with whom he stayed for a period of more than three months, and who was ultimately left with a heavy bill unpaid.

Amongst others who suffered by Christien's sudden departure was a firm of printers which had executed work to the tune of £25 odd without getting a penny in return.

Christien, by the way, is also known by the aliases of Beard, Annesworth, Scott and Landon, and, as we have pointed out, has now successfully evaded the law for some considerable time.

But we have now been fortunate enough to obtain his picture from one of his dupes, and are reproducing it here in the hope that one or other of our readers will be able to identify him.

In that happy event they have only to lodge the necessary information with the nearest police, who can safely be relied upon to do the rest.

A TALE FOR LAMBS

KEN'S PAT FOR SHAKESPEARE

The Dark Lady of the Sonnets!

HUMOUR is the salt of life. But there is at times a serious side to the humour. The following story will prove the truth of this contention

KEN KENNEDY, that master of mirth, of Windyridge, Westgate-on-Sea, has been at it again! He will have his little joke. No sooner does he pull off one jest than he slams in another.

He has been keeping us constantly amused for some time now, and he won't let us rest.

His latest humorous effort is to inform clients that he is "expecting an apology or a letter from JOHN BULL" unreservedly withdrawing our comments upon his methods!

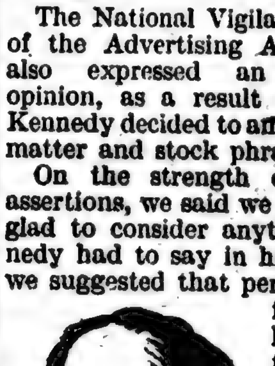
This little flight of fancy shows that Ken, in addition to his mirth-making propensities, is gifted with an extremely elastic imagination.

The true position of affairs can be stated very simply Following our last comments, Ken Kennedy was granted an interview in this office, at which he volunteered the information that we were not alone in taking exception to his methods.

"Expected" apology

The National Vigilance Committee of the Advertising Association had also expressed an unfavourable opinion, as a result of which Ken Kennedy decided to amend his printed matter and stock phraseology.

On the strength of these frank assertions, we said we should be very glad to consider anything Mr. Kennedy had to say in his defence, and we suggested that perhaps he would furnish particulars of music firms to which he was accustomed to submit his clients' efforts, together with a list of would-be song-writers whom he had discouraged.



William Shakespeare, whose work Ken Kennedy thinks "very good in deed"

Ken went away in a serious mood, for he was bent on obtaining our blessing. He furnished the particulars in due course.

The list of music firms to which he recommended clients certainly contained the names of some which were quite respectable, and the list of clients whose work was not up to standard was quite formidable. So Ken scored that point.

And, on the strength of this, apparently, he is "expecting" an apology. Oh, Ken!

But, as a striking example of Ken's sparkling wit, we cannot do better than quote the merry way in which he tickled the risibility of a recent client.

The latter had paid for a musical setting to his song on the understanding that his fees would be refunded if he did not secure an offer from a publisher.

Time went on, and when the budding author wrote to Ken Kennedy, the latter replied:

"I did send your song round to several firms, but I was unable to secure an offer. I am now passing it over to Peter Derek and Co., from whom you will doubtless be hearing in due course. I hope you will be able to come to terms with them."

Flattering comment

And, sure enough, the song-writer did hear from Peter Derek and Co., within forty-eight hours! And, where other publishers had remained faint-hearted, Peter Derek and Co. waxed bold.

The song, it was claimed, had been favourably reported upon as "possessing commercial possibilities, and being well up to publication standard."

The company then went on to state that it would be willing to undertake publication on payment of £12 12s.

The letter was signed by one of the partners in the firm of Peter Derek and Co.—Thos. A. Stockwell—which is the real name of Ken Kennedy. Who dares to say that Ken isn't funny?

But Ken Kennedy's attitude towards his clients is often one of fellowship and good humour, as the following story will serve to show.

A lady, who perhaps should have known better, was interested in Ken's offers to budding song-writers, and decided to send in a little effort for the favour of his professional opinion.

Apparently she found the labour of original composition too exacting, for she unblushingly lifted one of Shakespeare's sonnets and sent it in to Ken as her own work.

Sonnets and bananas

Did Ken take the over-ambitious "song-writer" to task? Did he read her a long lecture upon the gross sin of plagiarism and shake his head sadly over her deception? Not he. Simply overflowing with good humour, he wrote to the lady in the following strain:

"Many thanks for your letter to hand, with song poem enclosed. This is very good indeed, being striking and original, and lending itself well to effective music treatment. It would, in my opinion, make a really capital song if wedded to melodious music. It is just the type of number at present in demand."

Ken then expressed his readiness to wed his own melodious music to William Shakespeare's sonnet in return for the modest fee of £3 13s. 6d., and reminded the lady of the big money that had been made from "Yes, we have no bananas."

A sonnet to a banana! Oh, Ken!

UPRIGHT'S DOWNRIGHT DIDDLES

THE COLLAPSIBLE BUILDER

A Man with a Wrong Name

THIS is the story of an over-ambitious builder, who seems to be more successful in piling up mountainous debts than in building anything useful. In the fabrication of excuses, too, he has been known to excel.

He is Mr. Ernest William Upright, of Belgrave Road, London, and Gunton, near Dover.

About eighteen months ago, he hit upon the bright idea of starting a building firm in the name of Upright and Son, at Gunton.

But, while he thus set himself up as a builder, he does not appear to have built many houses.

This does not mean that he has remained idle. He has been on the run nearly all the time, and for an initial period was busily occupied in ordering goods on credit.

Simple solution

This went on until Mr. Upright found himself being too heavily pressed for settlement. Then he solved his problems very simply. He packed his trunk, and, flinging the destinies of his creditors to the four winds, faded into obscurity.

No one seemed to have any idea where the missing builder had gone, and writs that had been issued against him for debt were consequently held up indefinitely.

As a matter of fact, he bolted from Dover at a time when he was hopelessly insolvent, and any money that remained in his business should undoubtedly have been set aside for the benefit of the misled creditors.

But whatever affection he may have entertained for the name of Upright, he certainly had little regard for upright principles in business.

With cool deliberation, he now began to draw a number of cheques for substantial amounts, which, according to the books he ultimately left behind him, were for such items as "office expenses," "cash," "importing dues" and "rentals."

Artful move

All the time, however, these cheques were not being drawn for any legitimate business purposes, but for Mr. Upright's own private benefit.

He was not so foolish, though, as to pay them into his own bank, for the amounts involved were individually much larger than he was ordinarily accustomed to handle, and his sudden accumulation of cash might easily have aroused suspicion.

So he persuaded a brother-in-law in London to pass the various cheques through his account because otherwise "there might have been questions asked."

With the money obtained by these cunningly converted cheques, Mr. Upright journeyed to Brighton, and while his Dover creditors were anxiously looking high and low for him, he was sojourning luxuriously at the Metropole Hotel.

He knew, however, that he must be run to earth before long, so hit upon the ingenious plan of leading his creditors to believe that he had decided to settle overseas and start life anew.

Utilising the misappropriated money, he obtained a passage to America, and, after sailing, wrote a long letter of "explanation."

"Do not be too upset at the contents of this letter," he began, "as I have not taken the step without every thought. By this time I shall have said good-bye to England for good. *Never shall I return!*

"The troubles and trials of the last three or four years have absolutely undermined my health and strength. . . . I have gone abroad, feeling ill and miserable, not caring if I am alive or dead.

"Try and think as well as you can of me—believe me I have suffered the tortures of hell through things going wrong. . . . I don't suppose we shall ever meet again."

The person who received this letter could do nothing but feel sorry for Mr. Upright, and did not realise that the poignant epistle was one long example of sustained humbug.

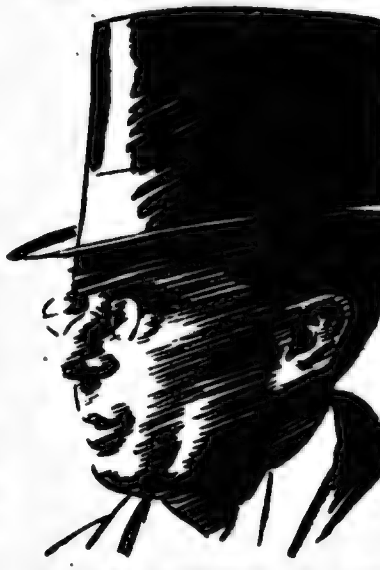
Forgotten vows

For, to come to the point, the remorse of the inappropriately named Mr. Upright lasted only until he thought the clamour of his creditors had died down.

Unmindful, then, of all his vows about intending to make good in a new country, he came quietly back to London, and, dropping his real name, masqueraded in the alias of "W. Wright."

But Fate decreed that Mr. Upright's downright deception was not to pass unchecked. Although he could change his name, he could not alter his appearance, and one day a creditor recognised him in a London hotel.

This chance meeting burst Wright's little bubble of deceit, and at long last he was compelled to face the Official Receiver in Bankruptcy.



Sir Guy Stephenson, the Assistant Public Prosecutor, whom we urge to look into this gentleman's curious affairs

With startling audacity, however, he explained away his strange conduct by pleading that he had not, until recently, been in full possession of his faculties!

This "explanation" hardly convinces the numerous creditors who are asking what action is to be taken.

Upright was sufficiently in command of his faculties to personally appropriate nearly £400 of his company's cash at a time when he was being pressed for debts on all sides.

And this is not his only financial crash. He was, we find, a director of E. W. Upright, Ltd., which also purported to function in the building trade, but which failed with liabilities of more than £3,000.

It certainly looks as if the Public Prosecutor would find an investigation of this man's affairs decidedly illuminating.

A Mythical Medico

Drake Scores a "Duck"

A HEADINGLEY reader who was anxious to dispose of one or two articles of jewellery, recently advertised in the Press, and was favoured with an enquiry from a Mr. James H. Gibson, of Gillingham Street, Victoria, London, S.W.

Mr. Gibson was interested in a single-stone diamond ring, valued at £5, and a diamond stud and pin, valued at £4 10s. and £3 10s. respectively, and asked for them to be sent on approval.

The doctor's friend

The advertiser very wisely refrained from despatching the articles until she had taken up a reference furnished by Gibson, and the latter wrote to say, "You are quite justified in verifying my reference," adding the hope that a satisfactory transaction would be completed as soon as the lady heard from his friend.

In due course the lady received a communication from "William Drake, M.D.," of Montague House, Whitehall, London, S.W., informing her that she could "trust implicitly" the doctor's very old friend "James Gibson" as a man of the highest principles and worthy of confidence.

Suspicious signature

The fact that the crude handwriting of "William Drake, M.D.," bore more than a passing resemblance to that of "James H. Gibson" made the lady suspicious, and she forwarded the correspondence on to us.

Enquiries at the Gillingham Street premises from which Mr. Gibson dated his letter reveal the fact that it is an accommodation address.

But it was at Montague House that enquiries culminated in an aura of mystery, for this address is in the sole occupation of the Ministry of Labour, and, needless to say, nothing whatever is known there of "William Drake, M.D."

We have informed an official there of this mysterious case, and notification is to be made to the police.

Meanwhile, this story will serve as a warning to any of our readers who wish to dispose of valuables to strangers through the post.

Kipling's Crafty Clap-Trap

A Warning of a Warning

IN one of his recent circulars, Mr. George Kipling, of High Street, Southend-on-Sea, replies to a correspondent as follows:

"Sorry to hear you have been taken in by the latest of the swindles, but there have been a number of these during the past year."

Now, it is very kind of Mr. Kipling to warn his clients against other cross-word competitions, while boosting his own in enthusiastic phrases.

But from queries which continue to reach us, it would seem that he still persists in conducting his prize competitions as actively as ever, and the latest facts available should therefore be of value to our readers.

One-man show

By holding up the lure of cash prizes, Kipling contrives to ensure a ready response from competitors at an entrance-fee of 1s. a time, though a reduced scale is offered to those who desire to send in more than one solution.

Everything is in Kipling's hands. He collects the cash, furnishes the approved solution, judges the entrants' efforts and decides the awards.

Now, it is only about six months since Kipling was charged at the Southend Police Court under the Larceny Act with obtaining certain entrance-fees by false pretences.

It was stated that in one instance he had offered prizes aggregating £2,250, yet admitted he only received between £30 and £50 a week.

Long odds

His own counsel, too, admitted that not less than 1,307,674,310,340 combinations and variations were possible in one puzzle.

A detective-constable gave evidence to the effect that in one competition the only prize Kipling had had to pay out was one of 10s.

Kipling was fined £50, and intimated that he would appeal. Last month the Southend police announced that he had abandoned that intention. We are not surprised.

And this is the man who is now warning his clients that there were a number of swindles last year.

Watch Them Grow

Up! and Up!! and Up!!!

JOHN BULL has become more than a national institution. We believe in all sincerity that it has become a national need. With almost the entire Press of the country at the beck and call of Party politics or interested individuals, there never was a time when independence was so vital to the best interests of the nation as it is to-day

THE astonishing success of John Bull during the last few years is one of the real romances of journalism.

In days when the organs of public opinion are being steadily collected under the control of a very few individuals, it is no less heartening than it is remarkable to see the way in which complete independence of thought and action is recognised by the public.

We do not hesitate to assert that the trustification of newspapers and the monopolising of the means of expression are a serious modern evil that is rapidly becoming a national menace.

Public confidence

John Bull regards it as not the least part of its duty to act as a bulwark against this encroaching tide of mental tyranny.

That is one of the principal reasons why we are intensely gratified to see the increasing sale of our paper, since it marks in a signal manner the appreciation of the public towards courageous independence and unflinching honesty.

In something under six years the net sales of John Bull have increased from a mere 300,000 copies per week to the colossal total of 1,209,952.

This has been done without Party politics, without truckling to this interest or to that, and without caring for anything except the presentation of the truth.

It is an amazing record, and as our readers can see by referring to the figures printed on this page, it is a record of steady and increasing success.

Behind this success lies an even more gratifying fact—the steady and increasing confidence of our readers. It is not as though John Bull inevitably says things with which all its readers agree. As often as not it says things with which they violently disagree.

The great point is that it says them—says them openly and bluntly, and cares for no one so long as the truth is openly proclaimed.

Wonderful work

That this is what the British public wants is amply evidenced by a circulation now approaching a million and a quarter. Week by week we present our readers with facts and opinions, our one aim being to give them material on which they can form their own judgments.

That is the part of John Bull that our readers see. There is a large part of John Bull that our readers never see except in the individual instances affected.

Take, for example, our Pensions Department. During the past twelve months this department has secured for ex-soldiers in the shape of arrears of pensions and allowances paid in lump sums no less than the enormous sum of £6,335 11s. 11d.

And it should be noted that this is only the minimum value of the awards and increases that have been obtained. It is the value of the awards assuming that the recipients only lived for another twelve months. The longer they live the greater the value of these awards.

This is a work which we have been proud to do, since it is money to which those who received it have every possible moral and legal right. It is money that was being wrongfully withheld from them by the Ministry of Pensions.

It is money which John Bull should never have had to obtain for them; but since we had to fight, we are proud to have fought and fought successfully on their behalf.

"JOHN BULL'S" NET PAID SALES

Jan.	1	1,083,915	Feb.	12	1,084,337
„	8	1,081,432	„	19	1,085,191
„	15	1,084,255	„	26	1,086,331
„	22	1,081,490	Mar.	5	1,092,338
„	29	1,082,604	„	12	1,095,635
Feb.	5	1,083,419	„	19	1,102,571
March	**26**	**1,106,409**			
April	2	1,115,842	May	14	1,094,138
„	9	1,104,189	„	21	1,091,767
„	16	1,124,579	„	28	1,082,176
„	23	1,127,726	June	4	1,085,373
„	30	1,129,817	„	11	1,098,753
May	7	1,115,348	„	18	1,108,218
June	**25**	**1,112,373**			
July	2	1,111,387	Aug.	13	1,158,301
„	9	1,119,256	„	20	1,155,910
„	16	1,141,272	„	27	1,157,076
„	23	1,137,655	Sept.	3	1,163,069
„	30	1,152,862	„	10	1,168,805
Aug.	6	1,159,318	„	17	1,172,581
Sept.	**24**	**1,181,321**			
Oct.	1	1,170,036	Nov.	19	1,199,445
„	8	1,175,447	„	26	1,194,424
„	15	1,177,867			
„	22	1,184,249	Dec.	3	1,197,155
„	29	1,185,322	„	10	1,200,493
Nov.	5	1,197,185	„	17	1,199,529
„	12	1,198,461	„	24	1,212,105
Dec.	**31**	**1,209,952**			

Orient House, 42-45, New Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.,
January 10, 1928.

FRANKLIN, WILD & CO.,
Chartered Accountants.

Take again the colossal work that has been accomplished by our Industrial Assurance Bureau. Since its inception some eighteen months ago we have received no fewer than 36,000 letters, and the number of documents that has come to these offices cannot be less than 250,000. Every one of these has had to be carefully read, and every one of these has had to have individual attention.

In actual cash we have secured for misled policy-holders no less than the staggering sum of £30,000. In the past twelve months we have secured benefits for no fewer than 703 families, and in numberless cases have instructed our correspondents how to secure benefits to which they were indisputably entitled.

Here, too, it is a scandalous state of affairs that it should be left to John Bull to secure for these policy-holders what is nothing less than elemental justice. The money is theirs by right, and has been wrongfully withheld from them.

Here, too, John Bull is only too proud to be the means of fighting their battles and obtaining redress for them.

These two instances will suffice to show that what appears in print each week is only a small part of the labour that goes to ensuring the aims we have always set ourselves to attain—the exposure of humbug and hypocrisy whenever and wherever we find it; the cleansing of public life and the maintenance of the strictest standard of political and commercial morality; the advocacy of what we believe to be right and the denunciation of what we believe to be wrong; the upholding of the best traditions of the nation, of the Throne and of the Empire; and the exposure of any and all interests that are militating against the national well-being.

Three million readers!

That such a policy is both wanted and appreciated is evidenced to the full by the romantic rise and the steadily increasing influence of John Bull.

The actual figures given on this page, amazing as they are, do not tell the whole story. John Bull is like no other paper. If 1,209,952 people buy it each week, it is certain that at least 3,000,000 people read it each week.

Such a responsibility is not one to be lightly regarded, nor do we so regard it. We regard it, as we have always done, as a trust that must not be abused.

It is not a responsibility that anyone could undertake lightly, and that is why there is no power on earth that could influence one line of John Bull or sway it in any direction that was not indicated by the simple principles of truth and honesty.

We lead, others follow

John Bull's policy is always progressive. Time and time again, we have fought for causes that much later have received popular support.

Where the truth and right are concerned, we are always striving to lead, in the certainty that others will follow.

We believe with all our hearts that the British public has no time for sail-trimming, log-rolling or any of the subtle devices by which those with axes to grind seek to attain their ends. Believing that, we are confident that the unprecedented success of John Bull is merely at its beginning.

We believe that a continuance of the policy that has up to now found increasing support with an increasing multitude of readers will carry us further and further still, to the dismay of all people and all influences that seek to twist and undermine the stability of the British people.

THE ordinary man may not be a theologian, but he thinks that a Christian Church would do very well to make at least some attempt to follow in the footsteps of its Founder. And this he fails to perceive is being done

A Dogmatic Dog Fight

by ESME WINGFIELD-STRATFORD, D.Sc., M.A.

PROPHECY is a dangerous business, but it does not take a very bold man to predict one thing with absolute certainty for the year 1928, which is that during its course we are in for a first-class ecclesiastical row.

Reverend gentlemen are already beginning to roll up their white sleeves, and registering a grim determination to fight to the last ditch, and the last gutter, rather than have, or not have, Reservation, Adoration, the Black Ritual, or the blessed doctrine that infants in arms are well and truly damned, all on account of poor old Adam, before being carried to the font.

So hot is all this controversy and, from the ordinary man's point of view, so futile! These reverend enthusiasts live in a world entirely of their own creation, a world in which a strange language is talked and the most insignificant things seem as large as mountains, a world in which the ordinary man feels utterly bewildered.

Upsetting the apple-cart

And in consequence, while the clergy are busy settling, or refusing to settle, whether and what they shall reserve or adore, they fail to notice that the congregation has gradually vanished, and they are left preaching to one or two devout old maids and dogmatic laymen.

Now, a very remarkable and startling thing has recently happened. The ordinary man, whom all these theological experts had left out of their calculations as somebody quite unfit to have a voice in his own spiritual destinies, has suddenly asserted himself and, through his representatives in the House of Commons, upset one of the most elaborately loaded ecclesiastical apple-carts of modern times.

In short, these impertinent laymen have made waste-paper of a brand-new Prayer-book, certified by the Church Assembly and nearly the whole Bench of Bishops.

Even now, in spite of the columns of explanatory or indignant letters that have appeared in the Press, I don't think that the contending Highs and Lows and the rest of them have at all grasped what the Faithful Commons were about in handing them so unceremonious a rebuff.

We are told a great deal about the unexpected strength of the no-Popery tradition. That is a story that may go down in a rectory drawing-room or a marine barracks, but to anyone who knows the average M.P., the idea that he cares a brace of straws about Popery one way or the other is not very convincing.

Layman's point of view

I would respectfully suggest that the average layman's point of view in the matter would be expressed somewhat as follows:

"This idea of scrapping your old and beautiful Prayer-book, in order to introduce practices that I don't understand, and to reconcile dogmas that are Greek to me, strikes me as uncalled for. For heaven's sake, reverend sirs, let your Prayer-book alone, and get on with your own and your Master's business of bringing brotherhood and peace and human kindness down from heaven to earth. Till that is done, Reservation and the rest of them can wait."

When I hear one of these disgruntled Prayer-book-changers crying out, like the chicken in the fairy story, that the sky has fallen on his poor, bald pate, and he is going to tell the King about it, my thoughts travel to a very different sort of clergyman of my acquaintance, one who has for many years, and on ridiculously inadequate pay, carried on in one of the poorer districts of a large provincial town.

Wonderful influence

If this gentleman is High or Low, Anglo-Catholic or Evangelical, he certainly does not show it to the ordinary observer. If you were to ask him, I think he would answer, with perhaps the suspicion of a twinkle in his eye, that he has really never had the time to find out. The old Prayer-book, a large and faded one, seems to answer all practical purposes so far as he is concerned.

This very ordinary-looking man, in rather shabby black, perpetually it seems on the trudge along the dingiest streets, may be an absolute ignoramus when it comes to controversial theology, but this does not prevent him from being almost idolised by the thousands with whom he comes in contact, and from wielding an influence for good whose extent you only begin to realise when you have lived among the people he serves.

It is not so much what he says in the pulpit, for he is a rather dull preacher, but the fact of his daily presence, the simple and unostentatious beauty of his life, that sweetens and ennobles the whole life of the district. People bring him their troubles: he lightens them.

He has reclaimed cases that punishment has rendered desperate, joined together lives that the law has put asunder. The children—who know him as "Uncle"—have a boundless affection for him, and dread nothing, not even birch and coppers, so much as the loss of his good opinion.

Hunting the heretic

In scores of parishes, up and down the kingdom, there are parsons of this type. But very little is heard of them. They do not write to the papers, they make no speeches in the Church Assembly, they do not find it necessary to defy their bishops or brawl in the churches of their fellow-priests.

But it is their presence and their example that account for whatever affection still clings to that most illogical of all human institutions, the Church of England.

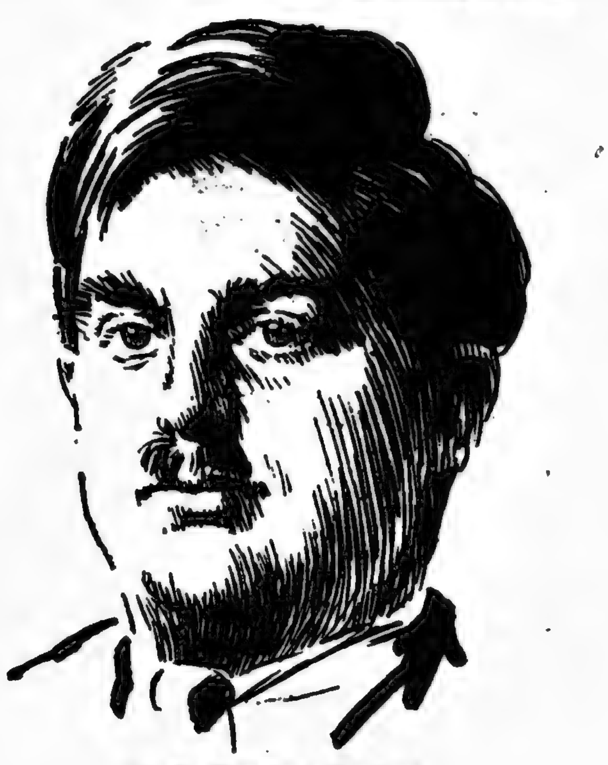
Of England, mark you, and not of the clergy or the bishops or any sect or Party whatever. The last word is not with Canon Chasuble or the Reverend Hezekiah Grum, but with John Bull himself. And common-sense is more in John's line than dogma.

That, of course, is the state of things that reverend controversialists want to upset. "Let the Church manage its own affairs" is what they say—in other words, "Send the nation about its business and hand over the Church to whatever section of its extremists is well enough financed or organised to get a majority in some assembly of clerical zealots.

"Then we will have discipline with a vengeance, and the hunting of the heretic will become a more popular form of sport than that of the fox."

The ordinary man knows that the Founder of the Christian Church not only failed to display the least interest in anything remotely resembling Reservation and all the other brand-new Prayer-book stunts, but that no thief or publican aroused Him to such flaming indignation as the ecclesiastical dignitaries who busied themselves with questions of ritual and dogma to the neglect of the poor man by the wayside.

It is time that it should be understood, beyond all possibility of doubt, that our Church of England is not going to be turned over to the uncontrolled management of its chief priests and Pharisees, though indignation should turn them as white as their surplices or as black as their cassocks. What England has, let England hold!



Dr. E. Wingfield-Stratford

Things that matter

The Church of England! An England that cares as little for parsonical dog-fights as for the Chinese puzzle as to whether General Fat or General Hung is the real ruler of Chu Chin Chow Province, but which does care very much indeed for lifting the wayfarer out of the mire and bringing hope to the penitent thief, and hastening the advent of peace on earth and good will among men, an England that thinks more of one Dick Sheppard than of a whole Bench of episcopal trimmers!

If we are to deal with any question of reservation, let it be one in which we are all interested, the question whether war is to be held in reserve for the settlement of international differences. This is a subject on which the representatives of the Prince of Peace might be expected to speak with no uncertain voice.

If we are to abolish a Black Ritual, let it be the daily horror of the unemployed queue, those poor fellows with gaunt faces and hungry eyes lining up for the job that never comes.

If Christ came back

If we are to cure any original sin, let it be the callousness, the selfishness, the lack of imagination that allows a man to be comfortable and contented, trusting in his own riches, when innumerable others are underfed, herded together in squalor and despair.

If Christ were to come back to earth, I think that He would be considerably more concerned about the state of things in the South Wales mining district than under what form people were allowed officially to adore Him, in a side chapel or cupboard of some fashionable West End church.

He would doubtless find words to say exactly what He thought about both these spectacles. You and I, being human, must confess our inability to find any words adequate to either.

I verily believe that if the clergy refuse to give us a Church of Christ in England, the people of England will take it out of their hands and set up a Church for themselves, with no other rule or creed or article than the Golden Rule, the all-sufficient "Love thy neighbour as thyself."

"But then," we shall be asked, "what about the new book, what about Reservation?" Oh, for the love of God, damn Reservation!

OUT OF THE SHADOW

Lord Lister said:
"When we have produced an antiseptic which can be taken internally without risk of injury to cell-tissues, we will have conquered infectious disease."

There are thousands of people in all parts of the country who can testify to the fact that 'Yadil'—the *safe* internal and external antiseptic—has brought them safely out of the shadow of disease. The dangers of infection are amongst the gravest risks of life. Taken regularly 'Yadil' is a sound safeguard against illness of germ origin, whilst its remedial value in cases of colds, influenza, pneumonia, mumps, whooping cough, throat affections, rheumatism. anaemia, etc., is truly remarkable; many have said miraculous.

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FOR INFLUENZA.—In the first three months of 1927 Influenza deaths in England and Wales totalled 17,931. Protect yourself this year against this scourge. A morning and evening dose of 'Yadil' is the best protection, or if you have a cold already, 'Yadil' can prevent serious results.

FOR THROAT AFFECTIONS.—Most winter ailments start in the throat. 'Yadil' Pastilles are the safest way of checking their development. Dissolve slowly in the mouth. They clear away all bacillary infection. Be immune from colds and coughs . . . . take 'Yadil' Pastilles.

FOR SORES, CUTS, BURNS AND SCRATCHES.—These constitute a most prolific source of septic infection, but with 'Yadil' Ointment handy, you have an absolute safeguard and healer. Its non-irritancy soothes, and the worst of cuts will yield quickly to its great remedial value.

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2724.—"Burning commenced at the top of my nose and behind my eyes . . . . restless night, and next morning felt ill generally . . . . made an early start on 'Yadil.' Was completely well in five days."
Southend-on-Sea.

6724.—"Received severe burns to both hands . . . chemist suggested 'Yadil' Ointment. After four days the skin that had appeared to be dead slowly began to revive, and grew back to the hand without leaving the slightest sign of a scar, and in fourteen days my hands were healed."
Leicester.

1806...". . . Effective in removing recurrent acute abdominal pains, which threatened appendicitis. . . . Always been a strong believer in its value."
Palmers Green.

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YADIL DESTROYS DISEASE GERMS
WITHOUT INJURY TO CELL TISSUES

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IN LIQUID FORM

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YADIL PASTILLES
For throat troubles.
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A convenient form of using 'Yadil'
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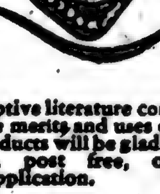
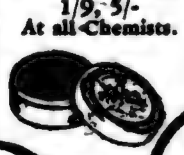
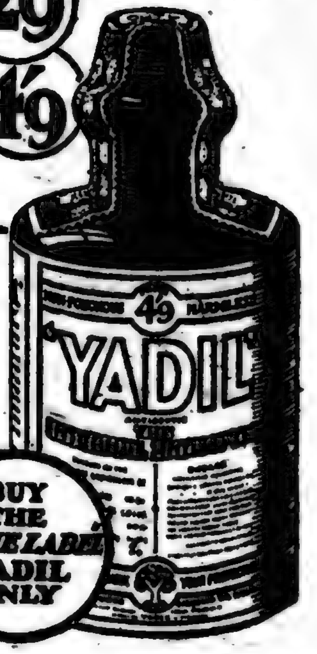


YADIL OINTMENT
For cuts, sores, scratches, etc.,
1/9, 5/-
At all Chemists.





Full descriptive literature concerning the merits and uses of 'Yadil' Products will be gladly forwarded, post free, on application.

BUY THE "BLUE LABEL" YADIL ONLY

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TESTED JB

Candid Communications

Outspoken Messages to Celebrities, Notorieties and, occasionally, Nonentities

To Mr. H. B. BETTERTON, M.P., C.B.E.,
Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Labour.

Dear Sir,—"Disregarding for the moment the grave situation in the agricultural, cotton and coal industries," you find "the industrial prospects brighter now than at any time since the Armistice." As a representative of the Ministry of Labour, it would be better not to disregard anything so vital. If this sort of forced cheerfulness is the optimism of Whitehall, I recommend personal residence, for a few months, in stricken areas as a spiritual corrective. John Bull.

To the Rt. Hon. PHILIP SNOWDEN, M.P.,
St. Ermins, Caxton Street, S.W.

Dear Sir,—Once again have you deemed it wise to warn Lancashire cotton merchants that an increase in working hours and a reduction of wages are no remedy for bad trade. I agree that employers would be better advised were they to tackle the ruthless speculators who force up the price of crops to the detriment of the industry. These gamblers are a curse to the nation, and should be dealt with as such. John Bull.

To Mr. CLARKE HALL,
Old Street Police Court.

Dear Sir,—None can question your contention that the drinking of methylated spirit is the cause of a deal of crime, wherefore I am glad you "stung" Simon Gershcowit to the extent of £111 for selling the vile stuff without a licence. The peril is so real that I hope magistrates in future will seriously consider the advisability of punishing this grave offence with prison. John Bull.

To the Rev. JOHN E. MACRAE, M.A.,
Parish Church, Partick.

Rev. Sir,—Before leaving Dundee for your present charge, you were entertained by the inmates of two common lodging-houses, and made the recipient of several small gifts. Bearing a lantern, it had been your custom to wander at night in search of down-and-outs, to whom you brought comfort and welcome succour. To have won the love and respect of these men is the finest possible testimony to your worth. John Bull.

To Miss DAWSON,
London County Council.

Dear Madam,—You find in schools a subtle teaching of the meaning of war and a strong emphasis put upon the attractiveness of soldiering. Too often are heroes of war extolled and heroes and heroines of peace neglected. I am entirely with teachers in their abhorrence of this quiet inculcation of war psychology, and hope the day is not far distant when parents, who after all are the deciding factors, will arise to their opportunities as electors and prevent it. John Bull.

To Mr. T. A. SOUTHERN,
Formerly Inspector of Mines, Cardiff.

Dear Sir,—In most colliery explosions victims are killed by the after-damp. You suggest this could be avoided if a life-saving door were erected in every main intake, normally kept open, but instantly closed should smoke or after-damp threaten. That this simple device is not already in operation shows a terrible carelessness of human life. At Cwm it would have saved twenty men.
John Bull.

To Mr. GEORGE GIDDINGS,
30, Coldharbour Lane, Camberwell.

Dear George,—Very richly you deserve your name of "Fag Card King." Through the kindness of John Bull readers in supplying you with cigarette-cards, you have beaten your previous year's record, and last year collected no less than £122 16s. 9d. for the upkeep of your cot in King's College Hospital Children's Ward. It is a happy idea to collect and sell completed sets to collectors. It shows what a multitude of small efforts, lumped together, may amount to. John Bull.

To Mr. SPURLEY HEY,
Director of Education, Manchester.

Dear Sir,—Seeing that only 70,000 of the million children of eleven and twelve years of age in elementary schools pass into secondary schools each year, you feel it "fair to assume" that at least 100,000 are capable of profiting by further education. They are. It is the wastage of potential genius by the present system of child labour that forms its chief tragedy. John Bull.

To Messrs. LEVERIDGE BROS.,
Norwich.

Gentlemen,—I have not the slightest doubt that you are shocked and grieved beyond measure at the terrible fatality which has overtaken three of your women employees. Nevertheless, if your business requires the storage of great quantities of matches, I trust you will not house them in a confined place, only reached by a passage with a door opening inwards. John Bull.

To Miss BONWICK,
Central Council, National Union of Women Teachers.

Dear Madam,—So weak are the official arguments against the raising of the school age that I am not surprised you have reached the conclusion that the Government fears an educated democracy. It is easy to exploit ignorance, though a very little additional knowledge would enable the rank-and-file to see through the shallow subterfuges of the politicians. John Bull.

To Mr. FREDERICK FUSSELL,
Two Mile Hill, Kingswood.

Dear Sir,—When you appealed at the Gloucestershire Quarter Sessions against a sentence of one month's hard labour for allowing a mare to be driven a long distance whilst in an unfit condition, the court substituted a fine of £25 for the imprisonment. I am not vindictive, but, bearing in mind that twice previously you have been convicted of similar offences, I hold you were treated too leniently. John Bull.

To Mr. TOM WELCH,
Custard House, Bordesley Green, Birmingham.

Dear Tom,—The efforts of you and your good wife in the cause of charity are truly without ceasing. During the last three years, by one means and another, you have managed to raise £2,760, all of which has been distributed between deserving objects. No wonder your neighbours write to me in enthusiastic terms. John Bull.

To Councillor WATTS,
Tonbridge.

Dear Sir,—You point out that, though the price of flour has gone down, bread in Tonbridge is still 10d. a 4-lb. loaf, a penny too much. The clerk has been instructed to report to the Food Council. Unfortunately, the ramp is not confined to your town, but up and down the country consumers are being robbed with barefaced effrontery. We will never stop profiteering till we treat it as a criminal offence. John Bull.

Straight from the Shoulder

Mr. Baldwin:—"The very existence of the vast industrial population of these islands depends on trade and trade alone."

Then why on earth does the Government do so much to discourage trade?

• • • •

Dr. David Forsyth:—"Optimists are people who have been well and properly fed as babies."

And pessimists people who see the same babies grown to places of power making fools of themselves.

• • • •

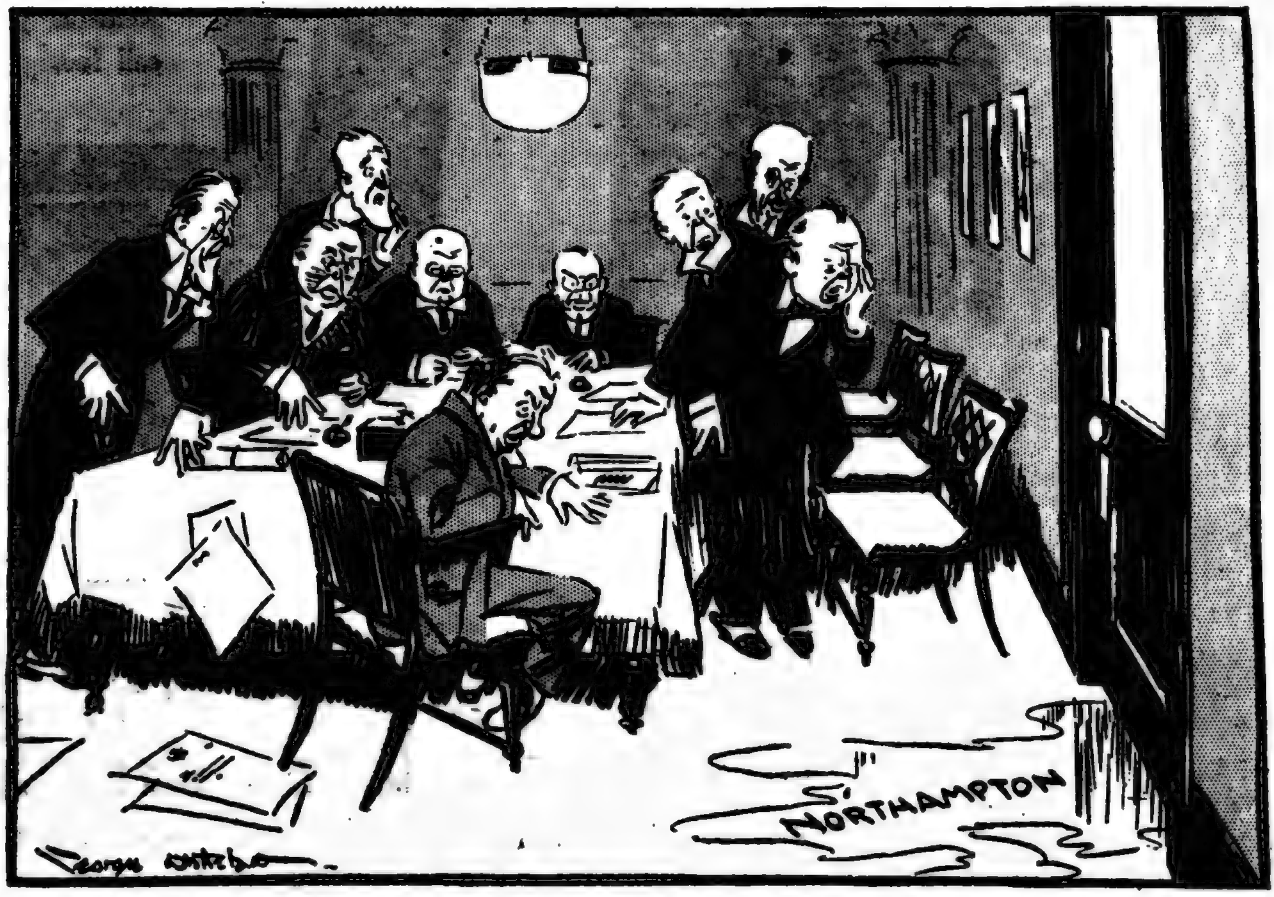
Mr. W. M. Citrine:—"The policy of making the maximum profit without regard to the real interests of producers and consumers is not the wisest."

And won't be possible when workers and employers are equally wise.

• • • •

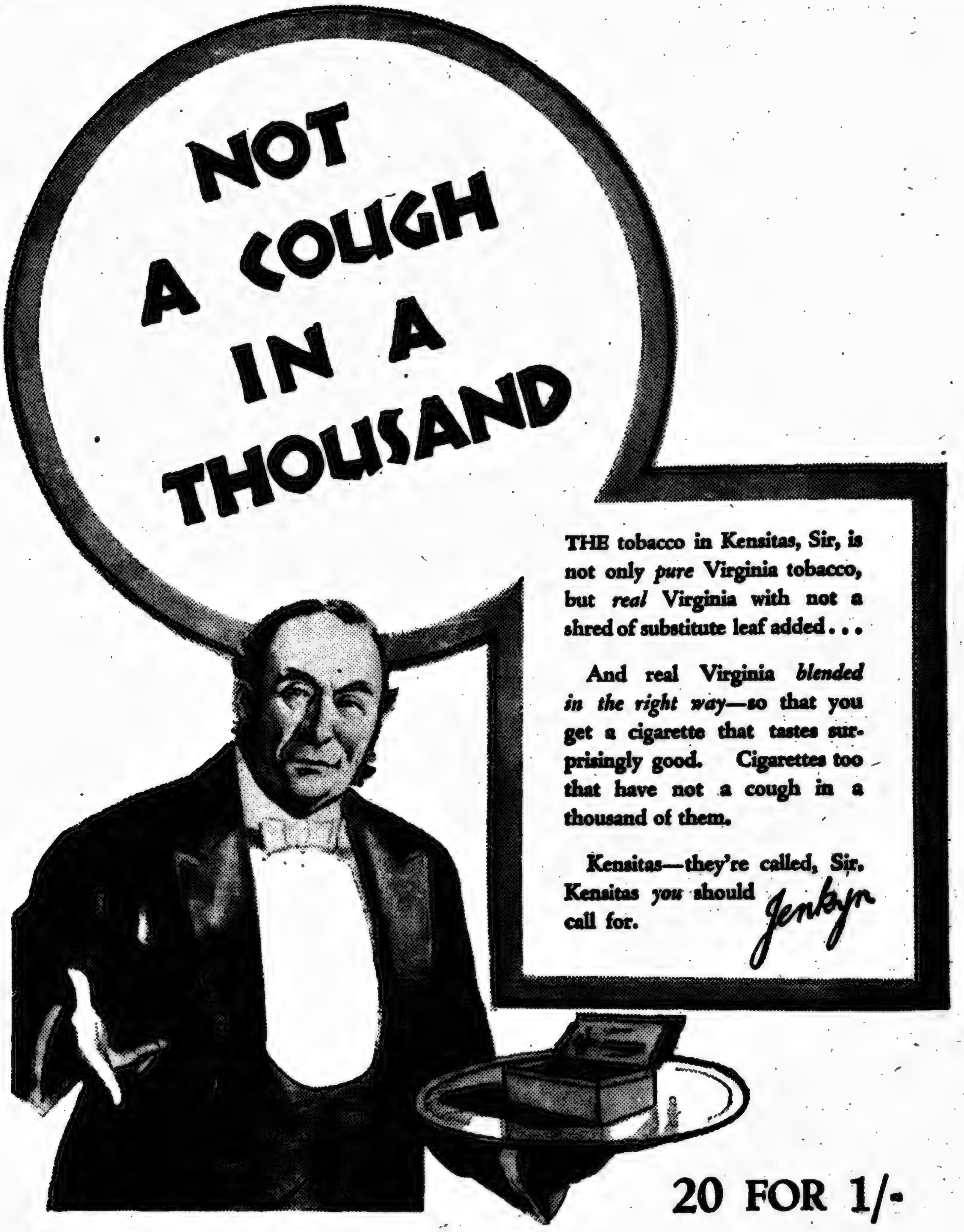
Professor J. E. G. de Montmorency:—"Half-knowledge and ignorance make nearly all the trouble in the world."

And sheer selfishness and pig-headedness the rest.



THE FLOODS ENQUIRY; OR, BRINGING IT HOME TO THEM

(The Government has now lost six seats to the Labour Party.)



THE tobacco in Kensitas, Sir, is not only *pure* Virginia tobacco, but *real* Virginia with not a shred of substitute leaf added . . .

And real Virginia *blended in the right way*—so that you get a cigarette that tastes surprisingly good. Cigarettes too that have not a cough in a thousand of them.

Kensitas—they're called, Sir. Kensitas *you* should call for.

Jenkyn

20 FOR 1/-

Kensitas

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Without Fear or Favour—by the Editor

A POMPOUS POO-BAH!

STEALING A PENSION

Red Tape Gone Rotten

A WEEK or two ago JOHN BULL drew attention to the case of John William Hammond, the postman who was charged at Marylebone Police Court with stealing a letter containing a ten-shilling note.

It is, of course, essential that the members of a public service should be above reproach, and if any such member is discovered to be dishonest it is not only justice that must be satisfied, but the public interest that must be safeguarded.

The consequences of Hammond's action were not merely serious; they were, as the magistrate himself remarked, appalling. His wife died from the shock of his arrest, and Hammond himself, with 36½ years' service to his credit, loses a pension of £2 15s. a week, and also forfeits a sum of £390 in cash which would have been paid to him on his retirement.

It is this last thing that concerns us. There may be something to be said for depriving Hammond of his pension, but we cannot see any grounds whatever for taking—not to use a stronger word—his £390 from him.

THE case was recently raised by Mr. C. G. Ammon, M.P., who wished to know on what grounds the "gratuity and pension which were in the nature of deferred pay" were to be taken away.

Replying for the Postmaster-General, Lord Wolmer said, "The question of pensionable gratuity is a matter for the Treasury under the Superannuation Act."

It may be, but it is a very disturbing thing to find that a Government department can do a thing which, as Mr. Harney, K.C., M.P., said with some emphasis, "no Court of Justice could, would, or dare do."

Mr. Bernard Shaw, who has been very active in drawing public attention to what we consider a very scandalous affair, put the matter in a nutshell the other day when he said: "What I want to know is, if the governor of a prison may not steal a pipe from the most abandoned villain, why may a Postmaster-General steal a pension? Who made the Postmaster-General judge, jury and executioner concurrently with and independently of our courts of law?"

Exactly. Who did? So far as we know, it was certainly not the House of Commons. Most decidedly it was not the British people. It is another of those extraordinary tyrannical acts of bureaucracy that are becoming a real menace to our supposedly democratic Government.

FOR it must not be forgotten that both the pension and the lump sum of which Hammond has now been deprived are a contractual right deducted over years from Hammond's wages.

It was money he had earned, and what ever he had forfeited as a result of his theft, he had not forfeited that. Mr. Bernard Shaw does not use words a whit too strong when he calls it "stealing a pension."

It seems to us that the time has arrived when a thoroughgoing investigation should be made into the whole question of pensions in the public services. It is clearly not enough to leave them to the tender mercies of Government departments.

There is neither justice nor morality in allowing a Government department to over-ride the law of the land and make pensions and gratuities subject to instant forfeiture at the will of some temporary official.

It is not as though these pensions and gratuities are acts of grace. They are nothing of the sort. They are rights arrived at as the result of a definite contract between the Civil servant and his employer, the State.

There is supposed to be an enquiry proceeding into the whole case of this unfortunate man. It should not need much time to arrive at a conclusion, and we trust that it will not be necessary to wait until some public-spirited Member of the House of Commons can raise the question before we are given a satisfactory answer to our queries.

ASLEEP IN A SWAMP

Dilatoriness and Disaster

THE suddenness of the disaster that overtook sleeping London when the swollen Thames overflowed its banks is not without precedent in London history. That constitutes the most poignant feature of the present tragedy.

In 1921, it flooded the Victoria Embankment, flowing over the tram-lines and making certain approaches to Temple Station impassable. In other districts, riverside buildings were flooded and houses and shops suffered severely.

On September 24, 1926, steps and terraces about Cleopatra's Needle and the Air Force Memorial were submerged, but the tide receded before great damage was done.

Earlier records tell an even sorrier tale. In 1882, the Charing Cross Pier was swept away. In 1875, terrible damage was caused all round Blackfriars and Lambeth. Woolwich Arsenal was flooded.

Year by year the menace of death, destruction and calamity has been deepening, and absolutely nothing in the way of prevention has been done.

Exactly the same is true of the horrible scandal of cellar dwellings, "homes" in which even in normal times thousands of decent, if poverty stricken, men and women must perforce share existence with darkness, dampness and sewer rats.

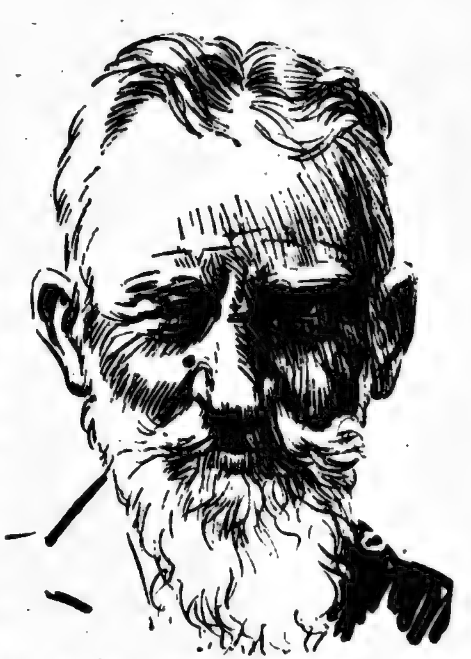
Dr. John H. Pugh, who was in medical practice in Westminster and on the Sanitary Committee in the 'eighties, testifies to the fight then going on for the abolition of these abominable cellar dwellings and for the administration of the Act of Parliament which renders their occupation as sleeping apartments illegal.

He pointed out also that, apart from the unspeakable horror of possible drowning behind bars like rats in a trap, these rotting cells were a constant source of illness and disease in their unfortunate occupants. Yet cellars are still in use as bedrooms.

We are not concerned to arraign private individuals, Boards or Corporations. We prefer to call the whole nation to a sense of public responsibility. Herbert Spencer outlined a scheme fifty years ago that would save London from floods.

Lord Desborough has hammered the Conservancy Board for years with the same ideas. The cost, hardly as much as a couple of battleships, has stood in the way. Privilege and precedent and property have stood in the way.

They must do so no longer. London must be protected. The land from Land's End to John o' Groats must be drained. Otherwise the British Isles will not only slip back into swamp; a large part will presently be permanently under water.



Mr. Bernard Shaw, who strongly criticises the P.M.G.

TIT FOR TAT

A Poor Reward

MANY people in Cardiff are asking, "Does it pay to be honest?" Although, on every count, we can unhesitatingly affirm that it does, it is not surprising in view of recent events in Cardiff that this question should be undergoing examination.

There is a story behind the query. The hero of it is Joseph Edward Pring, a local newsboy, living, when he can raise the coppers for his bed, at 2, Herbert Street, Bute-town.

He is alone in Cardiff, friendless and destitute, and without work. Nevertheless, he prides himself upon his integrity and values his character. That is why he thinks honesty pays.

On a recent bitter day, midnight saw him still without the money for his bed, trying to raise it by selling the late football *Express*. While thus engaged, he noticed a shop-window broken in, presumably through some drunken freak.

Cigars and tobacco were within easy reach. The till, containing a substantial sum, was easily accessible.

Pring thought of this, but only in order to protect. He sent another youth for a policeman. The first having gone off his beat, there was a hunt for a second.

When the latter arrived to stand by, Pring went off to a call-box to 'phone the proprietor, one Mr. Bowles. It was 2 a.m. before he could be found, when he drove up in a motor-car. He thanked Pring for his honesty, and presented him with half-a-crown.

We will make no comment upon Mr. Bowles' assessment of values. We blame the law.

Pring was frozen with his four hours' guard. He was homeless and hungry. Had he robbed a shop the law would have fixed the penalty.

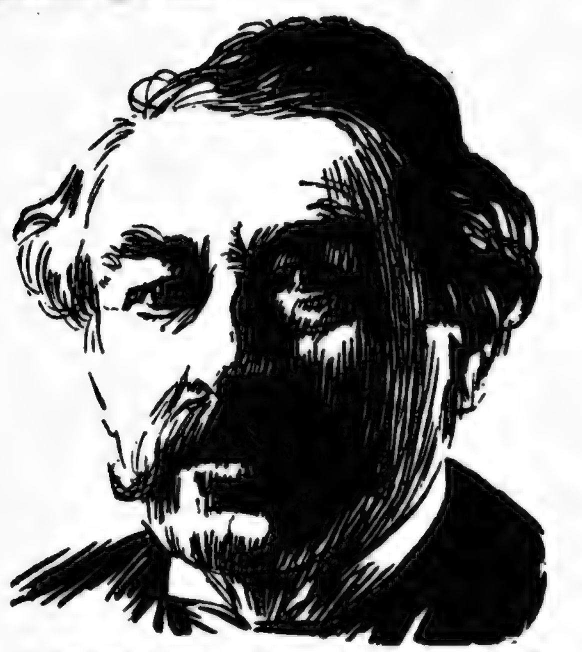
It is only just that when property is protected where it might, as in this case, have been stolen with complete immunity, the law should apportion the reward.

It is not fair to punish dishonesty, and leave outstanding honesty such as this to the mercy of chance.

World's Biggest Joke!

by E. ROFFE THOMPSON

IF the eyes of the man in the street need opening still farther to the dangerous inanities of diplomacy, the way in which two perfectly sensible proposals have been received as a side-splitting joke by the diplomats should do it



M. Briand, whose professional diplomatic bluff has been beautifully "called" by Mr. Kellogg

TO watch children slaying giants is always an amusing sight. The killing of Goliath by David and the slaying of the Giant by Jack-the-Giant-Killer are two tales that will delight the world as long as the world exists.

Something very like these episodes has happened twice in the last few months. There was, first of all, the astonishing appearance of Mr. Litvinoff at Geneva. The weighty people who constitute the nations' representatives at the League of Nations meetings met to consider the question of disarmament.

They talked all the carefully prepared diplomatic jargon that has grown up round the League; they used wonderful phrases which nobody could understand—not even themselves—and they talked, and they talked, and they talked.

Then Mr. Litvinoff stood up and said, in effect: "This, I believe, is a Disarmament Conference, the object of which is to see how best we can disarm. Since it is a conference to discuss disarmament—let us all disarm!"

Too straight for them

The effect was just as amazing to the spectators as when David flung his little stone at the great Goliath. All Lord Cushenden, the British representative, could find to say of such a practical proposal was, "This is out of order!" The others hardly knew what to say.

I felt very sorry for the poor Press representatives at Geneva, who had to cable back to their newspapers the astonishing and absolutely unbelievable fact that at a Disarmament Conference someone had actually dared to want to talk about disarmament!

They tried to laugh at Mr. Litvinoff. They tried to be angry with him. They tried to ignore him. They accused him of not using diplomatic language. But the fact remained that the rather childlike mind had ignored all the niceties of diplomatic jargon and had put a blunt and practical proposition in a blunt and practical way.

The diplomats and the politicians do not know even now what they are going to do about it when this astonishing proposal comes up for discussion again in March. All they know is they will have to do something, and it is puzzling them to death.

Amateur v. professional

A similar occurrence has just taken place in the absurd way in which Mr. Kellogg persisted in putting M. Briand into a horrible dilemma, because he simply would believe that M. Briand meant what he said.

Mr. Kellogg and M. Briand agreed that it would be a very nice thing if America and France signed a treaty, by which they both declared that war was renounced for ever as a method of settling any disputes that might arise between their two countries.

M. Briand is a most experienced diplomat. Mr. Kellogg is the veriest amateur. But the amateur caught the professional and M. Briand is left looking rather silly because his bluff has been called.

Mr. Kellogg thought the idea of outlawing war between France and America such a good one that he could not see why all the other nations of the world should not join in this very desirable game, and also agree to renounce war as a means of settling international disputes.

M. Briand did not want that at all, but he is at a considerable loss to explain with any truth just why he does not want it. The fact is, of course, that M. Briand has been very busy building up a series of alliances with all sorts of little countries, and if all those little countries signed a declaration that war was outlawed all M. Briand's beautiful treaties would be so much waste-paper.

Tragic and comic

The best excuse he has found yet for dodging the very simple and direct issue put to him by Mr. Kellogg is that if everybody agreed to abolish war it would be contrary to the spirit and the covenant of the League of Nations!

If such an argument were not tragic it would be the most side-splitting joke of the century. Here is the League of Nations, expressly designed to prevent war, and in the end to abolish war. Here is one of its members saying with a perfectly straight face that if we abolish war we are acting contrary to the covenant of the League of Nations!

The trouble is, of course, that a mere amateur in diplomacy cannot do otherwise than think in an amateur way, which means in a simple way.

As war between France and America is about as unlikely and about as impossible of achievement as war between the earth and the moon, Mr. Kellogg, while allowing that it all showed a nice friendly spirit, could not see much practical value in it.

He could see that war between various other countries is extremely likely, not to say probable, and he, in his simple way, desired to make it impossible by persuading all these countries to agree not to fight.

Hollowness exposed

He had in mind, no doubt, the fact which few people seem to realise—that the Treaty of Versailles created eight new States in proud possession of armies.

New States with new armies are like children with new toys. They want to play with them. They want to see if they really work. What is the good of having an army if you cannot use it?

Mr. Kellogg's simple mind sees all this and proposes to stop it. The old school of diplomats, whose tortuous methods and subtle underground burrowings brought about the last war, who have learned nothing whatever since, do not like this very direct approach to these vital matters.

It disturbs them mightily, because such proposals as those put forward by Mr. Litvinoff and Mr. Kellogg are so simple and so reasonable that the ordinary man in the street cannot help seeing their reasonableness and their usefulness.

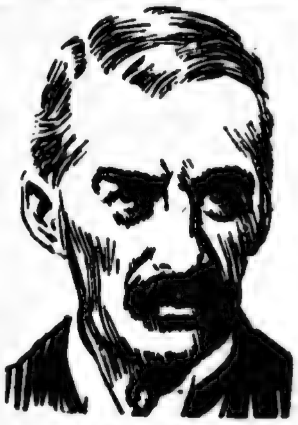
I do not stress unduly the actual proposals made by either of these two amateurs in the game of diplomacy. What I do stress is the fact that history will write them both down as men who, with a few simple words, blew to atoms the whole elaborate pretence of the diplomats, and let men see how artificial was the world which they have so sedulously built.

The hollowness of the diplomatic game has been so devastatingly exposed by them that if we ever again allow ourselves to be caught by its meaningless jargon we deserve all that is coming to us.

Born a Da

The new Pensions Act is a mean Act and an unjust one. It must be speedily amended!

ON January 5, a great number of old people, men and women, became entitled to draw old-age pensions for the first time, under the Contributory Pensions Act of 1925.



The Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, M.P., Minister of Health

Thousands of women of sixty-five or over, whose husbands are insured persons between the ages of sixty-five and seventy, will draw the weekly ten shillings, although they themselves are not insured. On the other hand, for the wives of men of seventy or over, there is no pension until they themselves reach that age.

This is one of the flaws apparently inseparable from every Act of Parliament. Because of it, 45,000 women are deprived of the pensions they need and which certainly ought to have been given to them by the Act

Why should the wife of a man whose seventieth birthday was on January 1, 1928, be refused a pension, while the wife of a man who was lucky enough to be born a few days later is given one?

Why should the sixty-five-year-old widow of a man who died before January 4, 1928, have to wait five years before she becomes entitled to an old-age pension, while the widow of the man who dies a few hours later draws the pension?

Here are two actual cases, vouched for by a reader, which illustrate clearly enough the absurd and unjust situations created, not so much by what the Act does, but by what it fails to do.

TWO old couples live in the same street. In one case the husband and wife are both sixty-five years of age. As the husband is an insured person, both get the pension, and the husband is still able to work.

In the other case the husband was seventy last New Year's Day, and his wife is sixty-six. She cannot get a pension until she is seventy, and her husband is unable to work.

Which of the two old couples is in the greater need of the extra ten shillings per week? Both couples, of course, ought to have it, but by what right does the Government refuse it to one and give it to the other?

The Infernal Triangle

by A. G. GARDINER

THE British Parliament is called the Mother of Parliaments. But it can hardly be a compliment when Members are elected by a system that is a mere gamble. A better system must be evolved that will make Parliament really representative of the people

I SEE that Mr. Baldwin is taking off his coat for the next election, and that all the political wiseacres are speculating on the date. It won't be more than a year off and it may be only a few months off. But there is one thing that Mr. Baldwin ought to do before it comes.

No, I do not mean that he should give more votes. I think we have too many votes, and I should like to see the electoral age put back to twenty-five for everybody. I mean that he should do something to make this voting business less of an absurd gamble.

Take the election at Northampton as an illustration of what I mean. 40,466 voters went to the poll. Colonel Malone, the Labour candidate, was returned with a poll of 15,173. That is to say, 25,293 voters in Northampton to-day are unrepresented or misrepresented, while the minority of 15,173 have got their man in Parliament.

Nor is that all. If there were another election to-morrow, Colonel Malone would be out and the Conservative would be in, for the splitting of the Conservative vote gave Labour the seat.

Minority victors

Even if the Conservative had been returned, he would still have represented a minority of the voters. Indeed, no matter how you tried, or how often Northampton were polled, *a minority would always win and the majority would always lose.*

It sounds insane, but it is the fact. In the circumstances of to-day and with the method of today it must always be the fact. Sometimes the absurdity tells against one Party, sometimes against another. In the case of Northampton, it has hit the Conservatives. At the last General Election it hit Labour and still more the Liberals.

Indeed, you could not have a more flagrant illustration of what is wrong than that offered by the present Parliament in which the Conservatives have an overwhelming majority of members returned by a minority of the votes cast.

At the election which returned the present Parliament, 562 seats were contested. In these contests 16,065,714 votes were cast, of which the Conservatives polled 7,450,990 and Labour, Liberals and Independents polled 8,614,724. That is to say, there were over a million more votes cast against the Conservatives than were cast for them.

Startling figures

Keep that point in mind. Now, if the result had corresponded with the votes cast by the electors there would have been returned 261 Conservatives, 192 Labour, 105 Liberals and 4 Independents. On these figures, the Conservatives, instead of being in a majority over all Parties, would have been in a minority of 40.

In fact, there were 382 Conservatives returned against 180 Labour, Liberals and Independents, and the Conservative majority was 198.

In order to see how this fantastic misrepresentation was reached, let us look at the average votes cast for each successful candidate of the respective Parties:

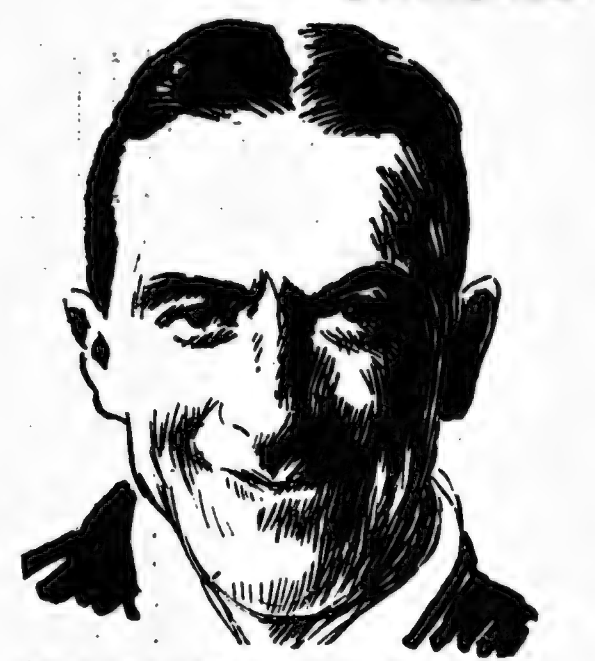
Conservative	19,505
Labour	38,613
Liberal	88,473
Independent	30,884

In other words, every Labour Member in the House represents twice as many voters as each Conservative, and every Liberal Member represents five times as many voters as each Conservative.

But to appreciate the extravagance of the jest fully, let us look at the case of England south of the Thames. There are eleven counties and this was the result:

	Votes cast.	Seats won.
Conservative	1,456,702	84
Liberal	445,726	1
Labour	483,873	0

That is to say, less than a million and a half voters of one Party returned 84 Members, and nearly a million voters of the two other Parties returned one Member. In every one of these eleven counties every Conservative vote was worth sixty or seventy times the Liberal and Labour vote.


Colonel Cecil L'Estrange Malone, M.P., who was returned for Northampton on a minority vote

If you happen to be a Conservative, you may be tempted to say, "That is good business. Why meddle with a system which keeps my Party in power?" But even from the Conservative point of view you would be wrong.

A system which works so insanely cannot be depended on to work insanely in one direction only. It strikes blindly in this direction to-day. It will strike just as blindly in that direction to-morrow.

Simple remedy

But apart from this, every intelligent Conservative will admit that there is something much more important at stake in this matter than a Party advantage. If representative government is destroyed, we shall all suffer, and Conservatism will suffer with the rest. And it is representative government which is being knocked on the head by our preposterous electoral method.

The danger is great, but the remedy is simple. It is not enough to have "One man (and woman) one vote." We must have "One vote one value." As we have seen, one vote at present may have the value of sixty votes, with the result that we may have a House of Commons filled with Members representing, not majorities, but minorities.

The present crisis has been brought about by the development of the Three-Party system. Under the Two-Party system the old machinery answered. It creaked badly, but it worked. Even then multitudes of voters were disfranchised for life.

The Liberal who lived in Mayfair "backed a loser" every time; the Conservative who lived in Leicester did the same. But, roughly, the House of Commons reflected the will of the electorate.

Really representative

With the appearance of the Labour Party, there is no longer a clear issue anywhere. The electorate is split into three parts, and the successful candidate in two cases out of three is elected by a minority of the votes polled.

The remedy, as I have said, is simple. It is to get rid of the present single-member constituency, to have constituencies returning four or six members, and to adopt proportional representation, which will secure that every vote cast will count one, no less than one and no more than one.

It will secure, further, that every Member returned to the House will be returned by a majority instead of a minority of votes, as at Northampton. In short, it will make Parliament representative of the wish of the country instead of a grotesque travesty of the wish of the country.

Too Soon!

by ARNOLD FREEMAN HOLT

It cannot plead that the certain injustices the Act would create were not foreseen. It was not merely warned about what it probably already knew would happen, but a private Member's Bill was introduced last year to rectify the flaws in the Act.

THE Government refused to give the Bill any chance of passing, and so the Bill, which would have given a measure of justice to 45,000 women of sixty-five or over, was lost.

Probably the refusal was due to the constitutional inability of Government Departments to be generous, or even just, and their success in controlling the generous impulses of others.

I do not think for one moment that any member of the Government would personally desire to rob the old people of what is morally their right. Each Cabinet Minister, in his private capacity, would no doubt have been pleased to see the amending Bill passed and justice done to the old women.

What no doubt happens is this. The Government promises to introduce and pass a Bill which will give something—unemployment pay, old-age pensions, widows' pensions, and so on. The Bill may be the pet project of one Minister who has succeeded in winning the support of the others, probably because they also have pet projects for which they will require *his* support later.

The Bill is drafted—and at once there is a panic about the possible cost, and humbugging restrictions and technicalities are introduced in order to permit the Government to wriggle out of the complete redemption of a promise and by so doing keep down costs.

In no other way can I understand the actions of the Government in connection with either pensions or social schemes. Apparently trying to be generous, it succeeds only in giving an impression of meanness.

And the British people do not like meanness. They desire their representatives to be first just, then, if possible, generous, but *mean*—never!

BRITAIN is not yet so poor that it needs to rob either the disabled or the aged in order to make ends meet; nor are the British people so poor-spirited that they can learn of such meannesses on the part of their representatives without indignation.

In view of a possible early election, the Government would be well advised to act justly, amend this Act, and let the 45,000 women have their pensions.

Your overcoat's not enough

Unless you keep body heat up, you'll get chilled inside the heaviest coat. Eat Quaker Oats for breakfast and you'll be warm, fit and vigorous for your day's work. Quaker gives all-day energy, and is the best health insurance.

Quaker Oats is the perfectly balanced food for young and old. The oats from which Quaker is milled are *sun-ripened.* Quaker contains the full food value that nature intended—Vitamins, Carbohydrates, Protein, Mineral Salts—the very essence of life.

Its flavour is different and more delicious than any other oats because it is made from the world's richest, sun-ripened oats. *Quick* Quaker cooks in 3 to 5 minutes.

Quaker Oats

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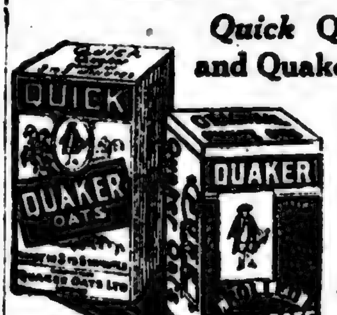


(Except in Irish Free State)

GRAVE BIGAMY SCANDAL

ONE MAN: EIGHTEEN WIVES!

The Easiest Crime on Earth

IN charging the Grand Jury at the Surrey Assizes the other day, Mr. Justice Horridge observed that, out of fifteen charges in the calendar, seven were for the crime of bigamy.

"I have just come from Maidstone, where I had six charges of bigamy," added his lordship, "and I am going on from here to Lewes, where there are also a number of bigamy cases.

"I am afraid that the offence is rife, and it may be necessary to consider whether more severe punishment should be allotted."

But the law already prescribes seven years' penal servitude as the maximum penalty. In aggravated cases, the judges have ample powers to punish this cruel offence, and in many recent cases exemplary sentences have been awarded.

It is like hanging murderers, impressive, no doubt, but ineffective as a means of preventing crime.

Loopholes for villainy

The State ought not simply to punish, but to prevent, bigamy. It can be done, as soon as we like. The fault lies with the present system of registration of marriages, as full of loopholes for villainy as if it had been concocted in the interests of crime.

Not long ago, a man named Ernest Yates was on trial at Chichester for bigamy. In 1896 he had been legally married at Abergavenny to a woman who died in 1916; in 1921 he married a nurse at Glasgow, robbing her of £150; in 1922, he went through the form of marriage, at Bath, with a Plymouth woman, whom he persuaded to part with £500.

In 1926, both his earlier victims being still alive, he "married" a sea-captain's widow at Southampton, who parted with £170, while at the time of his arrest he was in correspondence with a Horsham spinster.

What is to be thought of a system of marriage-registration which permits a scoundrel of this type to wed three different women in five years?

Another rascal who made a business of bigamy was Percy Woollett, a man of sixty-four, sentenced a year or so ago to five years' penal servitude at the Guildford Assizes.

"Married" eighteen women!

Woollett's plan was to advertise in the newspapers inviting "lonely women" to correspond with him. His aim was simple robbery, but if a visit to the register office would help matters, no scruple troubled his conscience.

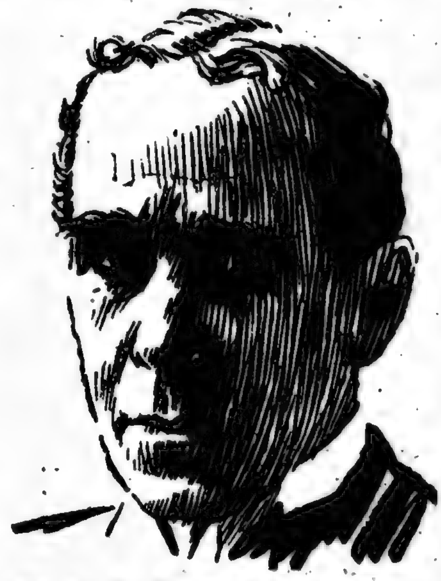
In the course of his career, he was proved to have "married" at least eighteen different women, posing successively as a business magnate, an Army major, and a belted earl!

At no stage of Woollett's progress did the marriage registration laws put the slightest obstacle in the way of his criminal designs.

At a huge cost, the nation maintains an army of officials to supervise the marriages of its citizens. Somewhere there is an accurate record of every wedding solemnised in Great Britain for the last hundred years at least.

Yet there exists absolutely no machinery for making this information available when one or other of the wedded partners proposes to effect a second marriage.

All a man has to do, who finds his first marriage standing in the way of a second, is to move into a district where his family circumstances are unknown, and he will experience no more difficulty in committing bigamy than in taking out a licence to drive a motor-car.



Mr. S. P. Vivian, C.B., Registrar-General of Births, Marriages and Deaths

Aiding the alien

To put the matter in a nutshell, it ought to be made, first, practicable, and then compulsory, for every man proposing himself for marriage, either in church or before a registrar, to produce satisfactory evidence that he is eligible for matrimony—that is to say, that he is unmarried or that his marriage has been terminated by death or divorce.

Foreign officials are aghast when they learn that in Great Britain we possess nothing in the shape of a National Register of citizens.

For at Somerset House a man's birth certificate, his marriage certificate, the death certificate of a wife who predeceases him, decrees of divorce, are all separately filed, there being no attempt to collate this vital information, so as to furnish, at need, a reliable record of each individual's life.

Clearly these particulars ought to be filed together, instead of separately, so that in any emergency—for example, on the occasion of marriage—the citizen could be required to produce an identity certificate affording clear evidence as to whether he is a bachelor, widower, a divorced person or a would-be bigamist.

Of late years, Scotland Yard has had no end of trouble with undesirable foreign women, who, by means of marriages in this country, have acquired the status of British citizens, thus circumventing the alien laws

A batch of misery

Most of these marriages have been bigamous. Frequently the "husbands" have been ex-convicts, got at by white-slave agents, and bribed with five-pound notes.

Occasionally, unemployed men, of previous good character, have been hired for the same purpose by plausible scoundrels with the vilest ends to serve.

Nothing is easier, as things now stand, than for cosmopolitan criminals to snap their fingers at our marriage laws.

The plain remedy for these abuses is to insist upon an identity certificate for every citizen, showing clearly, at any given time, his married or unmarried, widowed or divorced condition. This is assuming that we really want to stamp out bigamy.

If the end in view is not thought to be worth the expense and trouble, there is an end of the matter.

But it must be a hard-hearted, as well as a short-sighted, view which pleads economy as an excuse for shelving the matter. Who can estimate the sum total of misery resulting from the 500 proved bigamies annually which has been the total reached in several recent years?

Frequently babies are involved, born in shame and often in the direst poverty. The best of women may fall victims, for against the seducer who employs the forms of marriage the strictest virtue affords no protection.

Defeating bigamy

If to evolve order out of the existing chaos of marriage registration is too big a pill for bureaucracy to swallow at one gulp, let us proceed by instalments.

For the future, let every candidate for marriage be required to produce his or her birth certificate, to be endorsed with a record of the marriage. This arrangement would effectually defeat bigamous attempts.

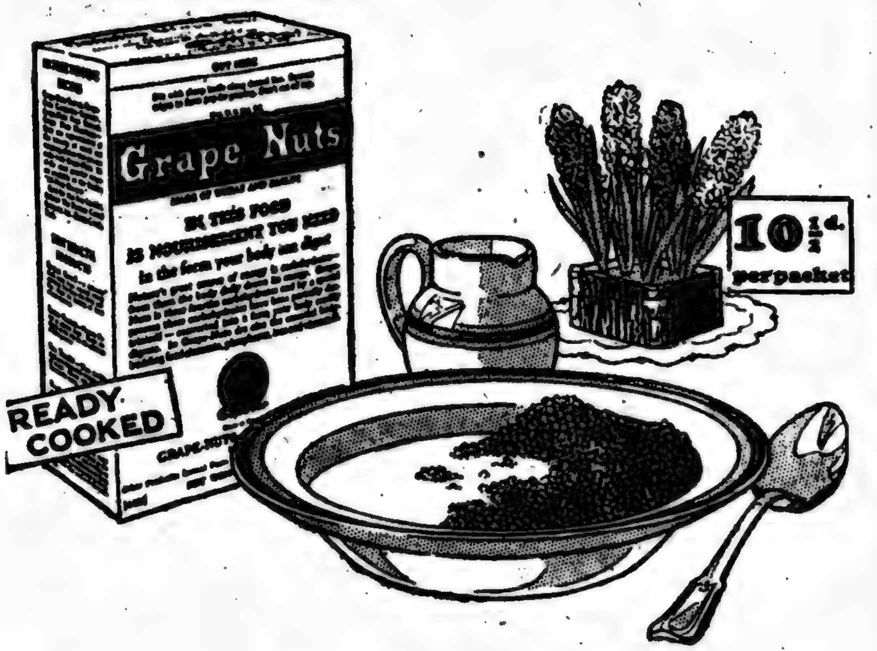
As regards persons already married, the returns of the next census, to be taken in 1930, might be a convenient starting-point.

At any rate, let us make some practical move towards extinguishing a crime which dishonours women and tortures children.

Let us, at least, recognise the palpable defects of the marriage registration system, which makes it easy for black-hearted scoundrels to defy the law of the land.

The man who wouldn't give Sir Harry Lauder £6 a week!

See "The People" next Sunday



for a family of four:

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You'll find it difficult . . . even impossible . . . except by serving Grape-Nuts. For 10½d. (the cost of about 6 rashers) you can buy one packet of Grape-Nuts containing enough for 4 people's breakfast servings for 3 days.

And each serving of Grape-Nuts supplies the body with all the vital nourishment factors it *must* have, in an easily digestible form. For that reason, Grape-Nuts is a *worker's* food. Its nourishment value means health, energy and stamina. Its low cost means saving of money. And being ready-cooked it saves gas.

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Accept, first, a 10-day tube of this unique shaving cream to try"

Gentlemen:—We've been in business enough years to know that the success of a product rests entirely upon the merits of the product itself—not upon advertising, not upon "selling talk."

So from the beginning we asked nobody to buy Palmolive Shaving Cream; but first to accept, free, a 10-day tube to try.

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We made it on the expressed desires of 1,000 men who told us what they wanted in a shaving cream. They named four things—we met them all, then added a fifth to make the supreme creation.

We think it will surpass your present favourite in these five ways. Please send the coupon, and prove the point at our expense.

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4. Strong bubbles hold the hairs erect for cutting.
5. Fine after-effects due to palm and olive oil content.

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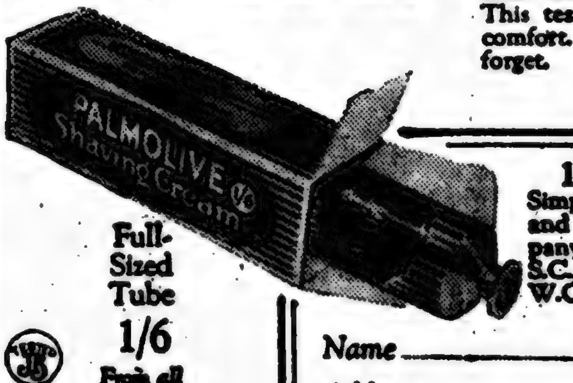
Your present method may suit you well. But still there may be a better one. This test may mean much to you in comfort. Send the coupon before you forget.



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JUMPY MEN AND NERVOUS WOMEN.

Troubles Bred by Malnutrition.

Doctors have good news for men and women who are run down, weak, under weight, nervous and irritable. All these troubles spring from malnutrition, a failure of the digestive system to extract the nourishment from food. Doctors have always known that good old-fashioned cod liver oil would bring a speedy cure. But, alas, few people could take cod liver oil because its nasty, fishy taste and smell upset the stomach.

Now you *can* take cod liver oil. Now you can get the valuable elements from the finest cod liver oil concentrated in little sugar-coated tablets, McCoy's, tasteless, odourless and as easy to take as sweets, but even more beneficial than if you forced yourself to take the nauseating oil. McCoy's Cod Liver Extract Tablets are simply wonderful for any man or woman who is run down, nervous or under weight. They bring new appetite, soothe and restore frayed nerves and infallibly rebuild the wasted flesh. If you are under weight and don't put on at least 3 lb. with one month's treatment as prescribed, the makers will refund all you paid.

Any chemist will testify to the value of McCoy's. 1/3 and 3/– the box. Insist on McCoy's Tablets, the original and *only* genuine. Refuse imitations. In case of difficulty, write direct to McCoy's Laboratories, Norwich.

GREAT POTATO RAMP

by HUGHES D. COLLINGWOOD

THAT any food commodity, home-grown, should be sold retail at 100 per cent. profit is an intolerable position. It becomes downright robbery when those who reap the profits have nothing at stake in the industry, and yet are always certain of profit

TO the man in the street, whose name is legion, the last seven years have been a nightmare, and those powerful questions, "What shall I eat, and wherewithal shall I be clothed?" have been the ghosts that have walked unceasingly.

Every man and woman whose wage scale has been controlled by that very real, yet seemingly intangible force, "the cost of living," is weekly faced with problems anent his or her "daily bread," using that term in its broadest sense.

Food Councils and Government Commissioners have sat and deliberated, but their published findings and recommendations appear to have had little or no effect on food prices.

A commodity in general consumption throughout this country, from the peer's stately mansion to the luckless labourer's hovel, is the humble potato, and it is about this very general article of diet that I am going to state some irrefutable and damning facts.

Vague notions

Potato prices in our industrial towns never or very, very rarely fall below one penny per pound, which is actually £9 6s. 8d. per ton.

The uninitiated town-dweller, whose notions about potatoes and much other agricultural and horticultural produce are very vague, reads somewhere about ten tons per acre, and hurriedly calculates that a quite moderate farmer with, say, fifty acres, nets the nice sum of £4,500 odd for his potatoes.

To such people any statement that agriculturists are facing heavy losses is mere moonshine, and their interest in what is a very real and tragic situation is thus lost.

The figures which follow are actually taken from the books of one of these fifty-acre farmers. His land lies in the midst of one of the most fertile tracts of fenland, unrivalled as a potato-growing area.

Formidable costs

This man is not a talker; he is typical of the fen country, reticent, dogged, a worker, an optimist, a sticker, a master who works with his men. His recent potato experiences constitute a damning indictment of a system which has agriculture in its grip to-day.

He makes his main crop King Edwards, and yearly plants seed direct from Scotland at £8 10s. per ton, plus 30s. for carriage. One ton of seed is required to plant properly an acre of land, and with a larger variety, such as Majestic, a ton will not suffice.

His seed has cost him £10, manure (phosphate and sulphate of ammonia) cost him £2 per acre, planting 6s., hoeing (three times) 20s. per acre, lifting (or raising the crop) £3 per acre, riddling (to get out the "ware" or eating potatoes) 20s. per acre, rent, rates and taxes £3 10s., spraying (against blight) 20s. per acre. This so far makes a total of £21 16s. production-cost per acre of potatoes.

Hughes D. Collingwood

A careful estimate of horse labour, conservative if anything, is £4 4s. per acre, making the total cost of producing one acre of King Edward potatoes under the most favourable conditions £26.

Risk of return

A good season in the fen potato area, under good climatic and other conditions, will see an average yield of, say, seven tons per acre. Many factors, such as too dry or too wet a growing period, late frosts, blight, wire worms, etc., may militate seriously against such an average yield as this.

From this seven tons of potatoes will be riddled out half a ton of chats, or small potatoes used for pig-feeding, the value of which is 10s.

A ton of seed for next season's crop is valued at 70s., so that by the time the grower has riddled his crop through to get out his potatoes for marketing, he has £4 value in hand, and what he can get for his marketable potatoes, to make up his remaining £22 of production costs.

He has therefore five and a half tons of potatoes (assuming there are no "blights") to sell for retail purposes.

The potatoes are sold either to a dealer, whose agent calls and makes the grower an offer to buy outright, or sent to a commission-agent in one of the big markets. In the former instance, the grower is assured as to what he will get for his potatoes, and they are put on rail, the buyer paying carriage, but at sender's risk.

So that if through delay or carelessness in packing into the trucks, the potatoes reach their market either heated (through being wet or too long in transit) or frosted, the buyer, under a clause of his contract, may refuse delivery and return the stuff to the sender, who, of course, can only have a serious loss.

During the past five seasons, King Edward potatoes have not averaged more than £4 10s. or £5 per ton to the producer. Our farmer, therefore, assuming he gets that maximum average, disposes of his remaining five and a half tons for £27 10s., against which figure deductions for commission may have to be made.

Precarious position

This is under most favourable conditions obtainable, and he has in effect £31 10s. against a cost of £26, or £5 10s. per acre profit.

The greatest optimist cannot fail to appreciate the precarious position of the potato-grower. If his crop be even one ton per acre under seven tons, as is only too often the case, his profit, at top price, is wiped out; or let the price be £1 per ton less, and he has a loss to face.

In the 1926 season, thousands of acres of fenland under potatoes only produced one ton per acre, and the absolute maximum was two and a half tons.

Every one of those acres represented an outlay varying from £18 to £25, according to price of seed, and the actual out-of-pocket losses ran into hundreds of thousands of pounds.

It is therefore scandalous that, in face of everything, the grower is hard put to hold his own, but all the time prices to the consumer are never below £9 per ton in hundreds of towns.

In 1923, King Edwards brought their grower 45s. per ton, and Majestics 17s. to 35s. per ton. Who has the difference? It is certain that there are people between the producer and consumer who while having *nothing at stake* in the industry are *certain of a profit* out of it.

As things are managed at present, the producer has no way of being informed daily what market values are. He has to believe what his commission salesman tells him, and this is too often most unreliable information.

Outrageous system

That any food commodity, home-grown, should be sold retail at 100 per cent. profit on its production cost, and its producer losing money, is a state of affairs that can only be described as outrageous.

The Farmers' Union must evolve a marketing scheme whereby many middlemen are eliminated and at least a fair proportion of the money actually realised goes to the grower, who takes 95 per cent. of the risk.

And, listen, Mr. Town-dweller. The worker who toils early and late, in wet weather or fine, in the potato-field has the princely weekly wage of 35s. to 38s. per week. At least he should have his potatoes cheaply. He needs them.

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20 for 11½D.
50 for 2/5
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"It's the Tobacco that Counts"

N.C.C. 349

TESTED JB

HOW YOU CAN MAKE MONEY AT HOME

by

The Managing Director of the South British Manufacturing Co., Ltd.

A few years ago I directed my attention towards the problem of the woman who requires work to maintain a home, but who is unable, owing to the need for looking after children or other reasons, to go out to work. The result was that, with the co-operation of some friends, I established an organisation that has been, and still is, successful in helping many hundreds of such women to earn a livelihood by working at their own fireside.

Picture the plight of the poor woman who is only too willing to do any honest work, but who is prevented by domestic responsibilities from going to shop, office, or factory. She is more or less helpless, handicapped by her circumstances, from taking positions that are open to other women without her ties. She can spare a few hours a day, but in the meantime domestic duties prevent her from being absent from the house, and the time she can give to work may vary from day to day, and may one day be more than the day before or the day after. What a boon for a woman thus circumstanced if she can have profitable home employment that will fill in her spare hours, be they many or few, and that will enable her to turn these spare hours and half-hours into silver shillings and sixpences.

The organisation that I have established and that I supervise provides such women—and, indeed, men too, for that matter—with profitable work and wages by knitting by hand machine in their homes. The Golden Fleece Knitting Machine that I introduced to such women has been a veritable boon in hundreds of cases, and has enabled its operators to keep the wolf from the door and earn reasonable wages from the employment of such time as they can give it. And not only women who require to earn a living, but also women who are modestly provided for can earn for themselves many of the comforts of life that would otherwise be denied to them. There is no woman with spare time on her hands, and who desires to earn a little money, who cannot do so by the help of the knitting work that I am able to provide.

The Golden Fleece Knitting Machine is not difficult to learn. True, it has to be learned just as the typewriter or the sewing machine has to be learned. But a very clear and easily followed instruction book gives anyone a short cut to the ability to work the machine, and then speed comes with a little practice. Hundreds of women have found it so.

Some women make only a little money by operating the machine, and some women earn a good deal of money. Those who make most money are those who gradually build up a nice little business by making socks, stockings, and other knitted garments by using the machine. Very many women have acquired a considerable local reputation for knitted work, and their friends and neighbours order from them, knowing that the work they do on the Golden Fleece Knitting Machine is excellent. The prices they get for the work are good, because they can charge such prices as would include the wages of the ordinary factory worker and some of the profit that ordinarily goes to the wholesale dealer and the retail shopkeeper. Thus they are enabled to make a good profit and still sell at a lower price than that charged by the nearest shopkeeper.

I recognised, however, that many women willing to make knitted goods in their own homes would not or could not sell them themselves to the consumers, so I arranged to guarantee that any woman who acquires a Golden Fleece Knitting Machine, either by outright purchase or by hire purchase, may send her work to this company over a period of three years and I pay her not less than trade union wages for the work done in accordance with my instructions.

Does the work I offer interest you? If so, please write to me. I will send you full particulars of the work terms with pleasure. I would like to mention, as an instance, that Mrs. Reader, of Liphook, Hants, has received from this company no less a sum than £312 during a period of three years. Many other women have earned sums comparable with Mrs. Reader, and many owners of Golden Fleece Knitting Machines have earned and are earning far more than the sum mentioned by selling their own work in their immediate district.

It is not necessary to pay the complete price of a Golden Fleece Knitting Machine before getting one and beginning to work it. You can do so if you like, but, if you prefer it, you can arrange to have it on the hire-purchase system, which enables you to return it at any time without paying any more money than the amount due under the terms of hire-purchase up to the actual moment you return it.

Have I interested you in my plan for providing work for women in their own homes? If so, please send me a letter asking for my booklet describing what the Golden Fleece Knitting Machine can do. Write your name and address very plainly, and enclose a penny stamp for reply. Please address your letter to: The Managing Director, Dept 63M., The South British Manufacturing Co., Ltd., 91, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.1, and you will get a copy of my explanatory booklet by return of post. Then you will appreciate that you can do what so many other women are doing—earn good money while still staying at home.

In Sunshine Ward

by PHILIP INMAN

We extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Philip Inman on his reappearance in our pages. We know, too, how welcome his return will be to our readers, who will be glad to learn that he again feels fit to shoulder his big responsibilities

A SECOND NAZIMOVA

IT is good to be back "In Sunshine Ward" again, and my first duty is to thank the many readers of this paper who have written to me during my enforced absence from its pages.

The rest has proved a very beneficial one, and I hope and believe that once again I am fit to shoulder the responsibilities which fall to my lot.

I would preface my story this week by taking my readers with me in imagination up five flights of stairs. On the top floor of my hospital, lifted above the clamour and clatter of the outside world, is the children's department.

In those rooms are congregated helpless and pain-racked boys and girls, though you would never think so to watch their mischievous pranks and to listen to their happy chatter.

"And so this is 'Sunshine Ward,' said a well-known bishop to me not long ago. "And it's very well named." He was right. There is a brightness abroad which warms the hearts of those who pass through its doors.

Wonderful contentment

To-day we will pass along the row of cots until we reach No. 17. There we find a little girl of eight, with jet black hair and dark, flashing eyes.

One day I had taken Sir Gerald du Maurier, the famous actor, to see this child and he had stood spellbound before her. "What an artist she would make," he said. "Why she's a second Nazimova." And ever since that name has stuck to her.

This little girl had been a prisoner on her back for months, afflicted with that ghastly ailment which is known as infantile paralysis. There she had lain, penned in a small cot, scarcely able to move her hands or her feet.

Yet she never cried or complained about her lot. Sometimes as she watched convalescent boys and girls romping about the ward, her eyes would glow with a strange wistfulness. It seemed as though she were thinking to herself, "Why can't I be like they are?" But if those were her thoughts she never gave expression to them.

One day as I walked through the ward I saw a little woman sitting by the cotside of No. 17. She was Nazimova's mother, and scarcely a day passed but what she came to see her child.

Words of agony

As I saw her sitting there, I recalled something I had heard on the day the patient was admitted. I had made enquiries about her home, and this is what I was told. "Her mother's dreadfully poor and works hard to keep her little family respectable. There's no father and there are three other young children."

There's no father! What a welter of agony in a few words! He had come home from the war, a martyr to chronic neurasthenia. For years he had made a fight of it, but a spell of unemployment proved to be the last straw.

One day whilst his wife was out working, his children returned home from school to find him with his head in a gas-oven. And that was why there was no father.

For a few minutes I watched that mother and her child together. It was a scene I shall not easily forget. The little woman was crying, but they were tears not of sorrow but of a great joy.

That very morning those paralysed muscles had responded to the prolonged treatment, and Nazimova had cried out excitedly, "Mum, look at my fingers; they are moving again."

As she came away I saw how the news had affected that mother. When she came in her face looked haggard and careworn. Now there was a new spring in her walk and her cheeks were flushed with excitement. "Well," I said cheerily, "you have had good news at last." "Yes," she answered, "isn't it wonderful?"

Philip Inman

Then in a voice vibrating with confidence, she said, "Now I am sure that my child will recover. I've worried a good deal the last twelve months and many a time I've lain awake at night picturing her a cripple and wondering what would become of her after I've gone."

Into the eyes of that little woman came a gladsome light as she concluded, "A big load's been lifted from me to-day, and I'm going home a happy mother."

And once again "Sunshine Ward" has not belied its name.

The Sentence of the Court

WIGS AND WIGGINGS

Sharpe and Short-Tempered

IN answer to a charge of using insulting language, Sir Montagu Sharpe, chairman of Middlesex Sessions, pleaded "Not guilty."

"What makes this offence the more reprehensible," said Mr. Watchdog, K.C., "is that it was committed by the accused in his official capacity, its victims being a dozen jurors, who could not answer back.

"Two men in succession were acquitted at the Middlesex Sessions, and this seemed too much for the learned and loquacious chairman, who thereupon adopted a bullying tone towards the jury. 'Of course, you didn't know this man has spent twenty-five years in penal servitude,' he said, 'but I don't think you've done your duty. I'm ashamed of you.'

"Doubtless the jury will survive the devastating knowledge that a gentleman who finds difficulty in keeping his hair on, though successful in keeping his remunerative horse-hair, is ashamed of them.

"Nevertheless, it is intolerable that such attacks by a paid public servant should be made on twelve good men and true, who have been dragged from their businesses to render unpaid public service.

"There seems to be an impression in some quarters that when a citizen, accustomed to respect in private life, becomes a juror he can be bullied and lectured by judges and ordered about by any tinpot court official dressed in a little brief authority.

"The jury in this case did not know of the prisoner's previous convictions, because it was no part of their business to know of them. They gave a verdict on the evidence, and their view is at least as likely to be right as that of the judge. That, at any rate, is how the matter would appear to any ordinary minded man.

* * *

Mr. Strawsplitter said that there was more in this matter than met the eye. It was notorious that the number of acquittals at Middlesex Sessions of late had been out of all proportion to what it used to be. There was reason to fear that juries were carrying to extreme lengths the principle of giving prisoners the benefit of any doubt.

* * *

"The numerous acquittals to which counsel refers," said Mr. Justice Bull, "may not be unconnected with the undue severity of some of the sentences imposed at Middlesex Sessions.

"Juries will often strain the quality of mercy rather than suffer from a 'Guilty' conscience. Who is to say that this attitude of mind, when a man's liberty is at stake, is wrong?

"In the days when savage floggings were imposed for trivial offences, juries acquired the habit of saying 'Not guilty' in all but the most flagrant cases. If the 'sentence' of the Court is bumped to the proportions of a fat paragraph, the average man thinks it is time for a full stop.

"Judging by various sentences which have been reduced by the Court of Appeal, there is nothing lost and possibly something gained by juries acquiring a little more independence.

"In any case, the jury, not the judge, is required to give a verdict on the evidence. And the average British jury, though it does not receive the rewards bestowed on wearers of horse-hair, has enough horse sense to know that it is better that two guilty men should go free than that one innocent man should be punished.

"Knowing this, they should be entitled to give prisoners the benefit of the doubt, without themselves being given a wigging. Justice, we know, is blind, and there are times when some of us wish it was also dumb.

"If I emulated certain of my learned brethren, I would now proceed to sentence the prisoner to death. But as I do not wish to add to the work of the Court of Appeal and subtract from my own reputation, I will merely impose a fine of 2s. 6d."

1st PRIZE MORRIS OXFORD SALOON CAR

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WRIGHT'S COAL TAR SOAP

£125 IN CASH PRIZES No Entrance Fee

The Proprietors of Wright's Coal Tar Soap offer the following prizes for the first 46 correct solutions of the Crossword Puzzle opened after the closing date.

FIRST PRIZE VALUE £250

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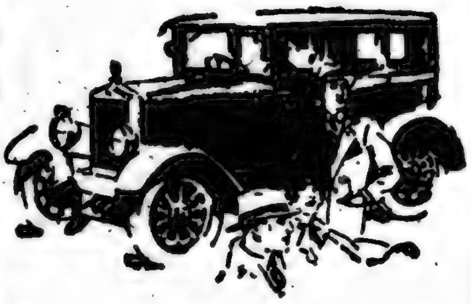

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In the event of the car being won by a foreign or colonial competitor it will be insured, packed and put on steamer free of charge.

20 PRIZES OF £5 EACH
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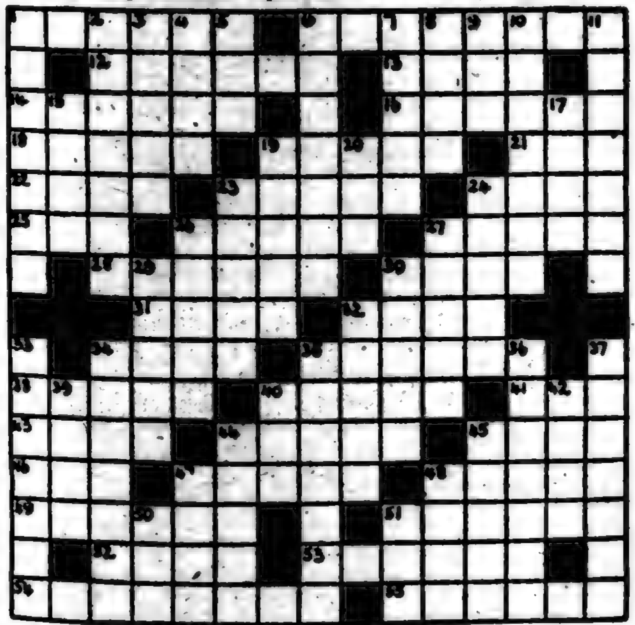
Solutions must be accompanied by three outside printed wrappers from tablets of Wright's Coal Tar Soap and the envelope marked "Crosswords," Wright's Coal Tar Soap, 44/50 Southwark Street, London, S.E.1, to reach this address not later than March 31st. 1928 It is suggested to Colonial readers to forward their replies as quickly as possible.

In all cases the decision of the Proprietors of Wright's Coal Tar Soap must be accepted as final and no correspondence can be entertained. Results will be announced in the "Daily Mail" April 9th and "The Sunday Chronicle" April 8th.

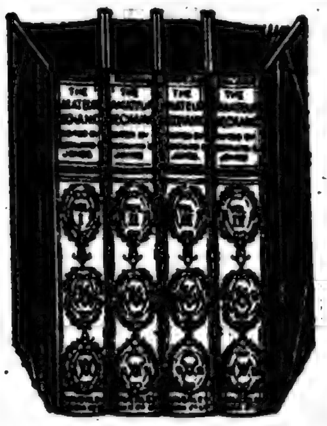


Clues: ACROSS

1. Medical adviser.
6. Wright's Coal Tar Soap makes complexion like this.
12. Gnawing animal.
13. Cry.
14. Manifested.
16. Tempt.
18. Evergreen trees.
19. Brisk.
21. Bread and milk,
22. Ill.
23. Indoor game.
24. Wright's is right.
25. Shelter.
26. Blessings.
27. Large spoon.
28. Scrubs clean.
30. Broad.
31. Uncommon.
32. Wise men of the East.
34. Removed by Wright's Coal Tar Shampoo Powder
35. Produced by Wright's Coal Tar Shampoo Powder
38. Lift.
40. Article of faith.
41. Open.
43. Part of church.
44. Large washing basin.
45. Smallest buys a Wright's Coal Tar Shampoo Powder
46. Insane.
47. Dried ready for wear.
48. Boxed.
49. Not seen on bobbed heads.
51. Given to hair by Wright's Coal Tar Shampoo.
52. Image.
53. Card game.
54. Well-kept hair is this to a woman.
55. Writers.

DOWN

1. Drives away.
2. Intimate companions.
3. Used after washing with Wright's Coal Tar Soap
4. Songs of praise.
5. Colour.
6. Parts of a flower.
7. Debtors.
8. Portable dwelling.
9. Allow.
10. Incident.
11. Trod.
15. Bees' home.
17. The best soap.
19. Beach.
20. Animal.
23. Woo.
24. Girl's name.
26. Brag.
27. Kindle.
29. Small bottle.
30. Necessary with Wright's Coal Tar Soap.
32. Provided with abundant neck hair.
33. Hair toilet.
34. Scorn.
35. Young hare.
36. Cock-a-doodle-doo.
37. Repairers.
39. Gem.
40. See 17 down.
42. Landing stage.
44. Kind of thread.
45. Hindoo rank
47. Tiny particle.
48. Natural hair ornament.
50. Girl's name.
51. Resinous substance.



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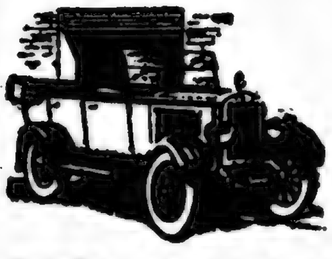

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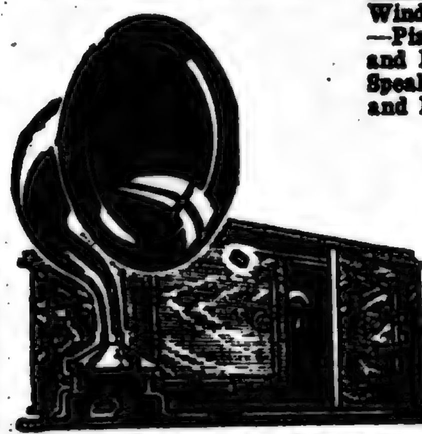

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"That sore throat was almost fun!"

"I did not have to take any nasty medicine. Mother just rubbed on 'Vick' and wrapped a piece of flannel round my throat and chest. My throat soon stopped hurting. I went to sleep, and by morning I was well again."

According to Mrs. Turner, this summarises what this bonny Scottish youngster has to say about Vick brand Vapour-Rub. She added that she uses this salve on his six-month old sister for spasmodic croup and on herself for colds on the chest, with equal success.

Acts in 2 ways.

Thousands prefer this modern vaporising salve because it checks colds overnight without "dosing." Rubbed on throat and chest, it acts in two ways at once.

Regular size now only 2/-, half-size 1/3, at all chemists.

"Just rub it on" VICK BRAND VAPOUR-RUB
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Get Well
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421

Words Winged to Women

A WOMAN BEATS THE WORLD!

by **MABEL HORNER**

GENIUS, intelligence, courage and understanding are spiritual qualities. Nothing can be more absurd and illogical than trying to relate them to sex. Nevertheless, they are still restricted from benefiting the world to the full by this folly

I WRITE to acclaim two great women of the moment. But, first and foremost, I want to present the Government with a hint. As I am not a candidate for the post offered by the Ministry of Health, there can be no harm done by canvassing the Cabinet.

Applications are invited by the Ministry of Health for an appointment as housing and town-planning inspector. This is a brand-new post. It does not promise a fortune to the successful applicant, although it is evident that very exceptional qualities will be required. Salary commences at £400 a year, rising by annual increments to a possible £700.

Experience "in connection with the housing of the working classes is essential" and experience in connection with town-planning and the laying-out of building estates or of hospital design, and the successful person must be prepared to give his whole time to these duties.

Important omission

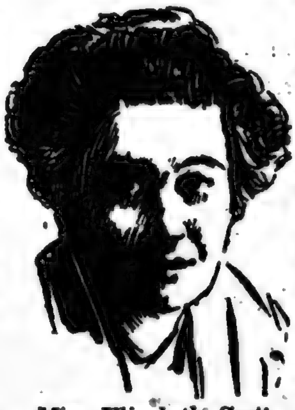
I suggest to the Ministry of Health that, in the very detailed advertisement of qualifications it has set forth, it has made one very important omission.

It should have been added that a great vision of what towns might be, rather than what they have been, would be welcome, that candidates should have courage and knowledge of what future generations might like to find in their towns, that initiative and willingness to give a great new lead was wanted.

But Governments seldom think of these things. They are too busy tying up the bad old plans of the past with red tape and keeping them free from tiresome innovations of all sorts.

That being so, I am sadly afraid that the Government will not take my hint and act upon it, that the very best thing it could do for the country would be to take this new post and give it into the hands of a fully-qualified woman architect.

I am one of those women who have looked long and doubtfully upon the towns and cities that men have planned, and I do not like them. I love the theatre as a mirror of human life, and I do not always enjoy sitting in the theatres that men have planned. They are neither convenient nor comfortable.



Miss Elizabeth Scott, whose design for the new Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon, has been selected from among those of some seventy competitors

I do like the design of the new theatre at Stratford-on-Avon, planned by Miss Elizabeth Scott, as a fitting home for the representation of Shakespeare's works. It promises to be both.

Miss Scott is a great woman. She is the first woman architect to win a great international competition. Out of seventy-six designs submitted by the best architects on two sides of the Atlantic, she has won, and she is only twenty-nine. Her design is rugged, magnificent, and *unlike anything that has been built in this country before.*

In that she showed not only genius, but courage. Such courage as, in another connection, was shown by that other great woman of the week, Miss Madge Franckeiss, now in hospital as a result of her heroic labours in saving trapped families in the disastrous London floods.

All through that long night of desolation and horror, Miss Franckeiss swam up and down, bleeding from dozens of wounds by broken glass, grabbing drowning children, dragging the helpless to safety until completely overcome.

Give woman a chance!

Why do I connect in one article these two totally dissimilar achievements? Simply because of the handicap which women, through men's arrogance, have suffered through the ages.

I believe that all around there is this great, almost untapped reservoir of genius, initiative, courage and understanding that, rightly used, could lift us from the great welter of ugliness and bad housing into which we have been sunken.

In regard to genius, imagination, courage and understanding, there is not a pin to choose between men and women. It is only that the world about us seems to prove that men must have used up all genius and courage for making experiments they ever had.

It must be so, or cities would not be so dreadful in the poorer quarters, and families would not be drowning in basements because they have no proper little homes in which to live.

I think that women would manage better. I know they would because of the courage and contrivance shown by women in making little homes out of places not fit to ask a woman and her children to live in.

That is why I suggest that the country would be better for a woman having the post of this new inspectorship. As it is, the very proviso that "applicants must have had experience" of past methods really seems to damn it.

WITCH DOCTORS AND WANGLING

"John Bull's" Better Way

THE world grows better. Human nature does improve. It is kinder, more sympathetic, more considerate. Some people are cruel still, but the majority are shocked and indignant at their cruelties, most of all when their blows fall on the weak and the ignorant.

If anyone doubts the truth of this upward trend, he can find its proof in the history of medicine. Savage man was impatient with illness. Weak and suffering people were a hindrance to be abandoned or killed.

Later, a glimmer of reason showed that sick people cured were more useful than sick people dead, so man began to experiment with herbs and brought into being the witch-doctor, whose remedies were worse than the disease.

Killed by kindness

A calabash full of glowing wood may cauterise a wound, but it is equally likely to slay the patient from shock at the same time.

Civilisation has discarded the witch-doctor, but in spite of the miraculous advance of modern medical science, it is still capable of dealing harsh blows to those already down.

This happens when illness arrives hand-in-hand with unemployment and poverty. "Being a miner on short time, with a wife and four children," writes Mr. William Hinchcliffe, of 3, Gordon Street, Stairfoot, "you can imagine how I felt when an attack of sickness dealt a further blow by landing me for seven weeks in an isolation hospital with diphtheria.

They all wished

"I shall never forget JOHN BULL as long as I live. I had papers sent to me in hospital, but of these JOHN BULL was by far the best. I handed it all round after reading and everybody admitted JOHN BULL's superiority. There was never a dull bit.

"I was a registered reader, but there was a bit of doubt about me getting sickness benefit. That was cleared when one morning my wife came along and showed them the cheque through the window. *Then they all wished they had been registered.*"

A very natural feeling in the circumstances, but one that JOHN BULL cannot fulfil, for the simple little act of signing the registration form must be done by readers themselves.

Other readers who have not neglected this very small preliminary precaution are Mr. and Mrs. S. Henshaw, of 93, Grosvenor Road, Wavertree, Liverpool. They were readers of JOHN BULL. They were in good health, but they took the wise course and registered.

Then suddenly, unexpectedly, trouble came. Both contracted the dreaded illness of diphtheria. They lodged their application and in a very short time a cheque from JOHN BULL was theirs.

Now get your pen!

Accompanying a little thank-offering which they sent to "The Greatest of These——" Fund, Mr. and Mrs. Henshaw voiced their gratitude.

"We are very thankful for our cheque, and we thank JOHN BULL also for kind wishes for complete recovery. It is the promptness of the settlement which has proved so great a boon to us. . . . We wish our little offering was more."

Yes: JOHN BULL's help is prompt, when it is able to be given, but with the best will in the world readers cannot be helped if they will not register.

Merely buying JOHN BULL, even over a term of years, does not bring readers within the Free Insurance Scheme. For that, registration is necessary. So if you have not done it, *do it now*.

◆

A Tide of Fortune

"Bullets" First Prize reaches a record high-water mark this week. Never before has a £600 cheque been offered in a one-week contest—and there is a flood of 1,122 other cash prizes in the remarkable list on page 39. Don't miss this tide of fortune. Wade in and win!

The Sunripe 'Twins'—Two of the Best!

SUNRIPE

-the 'Quality' Cigarettes

with the SUNRIPE DISTINCTIVE FLAVOUR—10 for 6D 20 for 1/-

SUNRIPE The 'Out-of-the-Rut' **PIPE MIXTURE** 1/- per oz.

150 YEARS' REPUTATION BEHIND THEM

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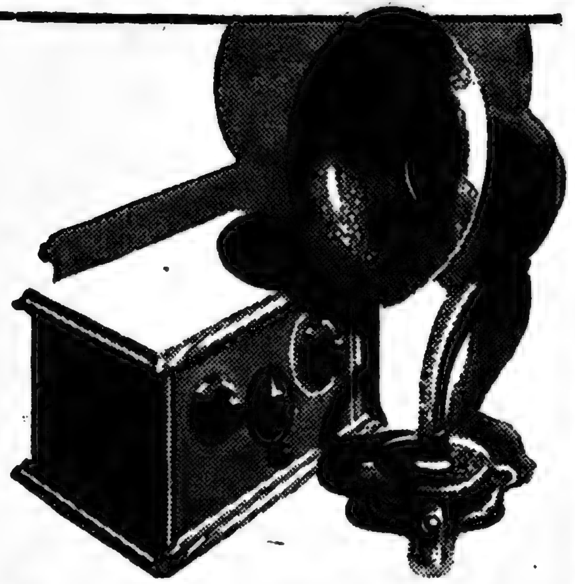
Write mentioning "John Bull" for full particulars of Marconiphone 1928 Wireless Apparatus and convenient Deferred Payment System.

Model 22 may also be operated from the electric light socket by means of a Marconiphone Power Unit entirely dispensing with accumulators and batteries.



The best—but you can afford it

Model 22—has set the world's highest standard of performance in two-valve receivers. Yet you can enjoy this luxury to-day. For only 20/- down, Model 22 complete with the "Popular" Loud Speaker, Marconi Valves, Batteries and Leads, becomes yours NOW. The twelve further monthly instalments of 22/3 are paid while you are in full enjoyment of the set.

THE MARCONIPHONE COMPANY LIMITED
210-212 Tottenham Court Road, W.1

The best is yours for 20/- down

B.E. 103

Make it a rule to add a little Oxo

It's surprising what a wonderful difference Oxo makes to plain ordinary fare. Tasty, nourishing, dishes can be prepared from the simplest ingredients by adding a little Oxo.

Oxo gives the appetising richness and savour of freshly cooked beef to any dish of which it forms a part. It is concentrated beef at its best—the Housewife's Great Economy.

The Oxo Habit

OXO —The Goodness of Beef

W.54

"For the Blood is the Life."

A Portrait of Mr. J. McGowan who writes

"Thank you for all the good your wonderful Clarke's Blood Mixture has done for me. I have suffered for the last two years with my legs, being hardly able to walk at times. After trying several remedies, all of which failed, I decided upon Clarke's Blood Mixture and from the beginning I felt the pains leaving me: I can now even walk about freely. From what a doctor told me, I really thought I should have to undergo an operation for Varicose Veins which would have been the case had it not been for the good Clarke's Blood Mixture did me. I do not hesitate to recommend it to all sufferers."—(Signed) J. McGowan, 11, Main Street, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

Clarke's Blood Mixture

saved Mr. McGowan from an operation for varicose veins.

OTHER SUFFERERS will find Clarke's Blood Mixture just as good for Abscesses, Ulcers, Eczema, Bad Legs, Inflamed Wounds, Swollen Glands, Hæmorrhoids, also Rheumatism and Gout, all of which are sure signs of Blood impurities.

Ask for and see you get

Clarke's Blood Mixture

TESTED JB

"Everybody's Blood Purifier"

3/- per bottle. Six times the quantity 12/-

When outward application is also required Use CLARKE'S MIRACULOUS SALVE.

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WEATHERPROOFS, OVERCOATS, MEN'S SUITS & LADIES' TAILORED GOWNS, well-made from the best materials, at prices that offer

Great Value for Little Money

THE BURBERRY
Weatherproof
Men's and Women's.
Sale Price 73/6

MEN'S OVERCOATS
Usual Price 8 to 10 Gns.
Sale Price 4 Gns.

LADIES' OVERCOATS
Usual Price 8 to 10½ Gns.
Sale Price 5 Gns.

LOUNGE SUITS
Usual Price 8 and 9 Gns.
Sale Price 4 Gns.

SALE LIST detailing 10,000 other bargains, sent on mention of JOHN BULL

BURBERRYS LTD (Dept. 20)
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Human Documents

The Folly of Youth

Barrier of Pride—Virtue's Reward—Abominable Cruelty

PROBLEMS that may be yours are dealt with by "Humanist." The names and addresses of all correspondents are suppressed so that the writers may not be identified. Letters that are too intimate or are not sufficiently general to be helpful to others are answered by post. All correspondents must send stamped, addressed envelopes. Ten shillings is being sent to each of the writers of the first four letters printed.

"MY daughter is causing me the greatest anxiety and distress, and I should feel very grateful if you could say a word which would help to bring her to her senses.

"She is only seventeen years of age, but she appears to have developed the most extraordinary views regarding matrimony.

"I have never tried to cramp her mental outlook, but I am shocked beyond measure to find her holding what she calls advanced views on morality, but which I can only describe as something like complete lack of morals.

"She has confessed to me, without the slightest indication that she is in any way ashamed of it, that she is expecting to become a mother. That is bad enough, but what is worse is her determination not to accept the offer of marriage made to her by the father.

"I am quite certain that he really loves my daughter and that he feels probably ashamed of the lack of self-control which he has shown during his courtship.

"My daughter, however, not only refuses to marry him, but she has expressed her readiness to live with him as his mistress, and indeed begs him to take her on those terms.

"The reason she gives for this madness is that she considers that at present she is infatuated with him, but that if she were to marry him, after perhaps a year she would be cured of her infatuation and wish to leave him.

"She talks, what seems to me utter drivel, about this young man calling into activity only one part of her nature, while she is conscious that there is another side of her character which has not yet developed, and that in time this development might lead her to seek a mate of quite a different character.

"What can I say or do to convince the girl that this is all folly and madness?"

"HUMANIST" says: *It is indeed folly. It would appear that the girl's mind has become corrupted by the pernicious idea of "companionate" marriage, which I can only regard as a travesty of matrimony and a mockery of morality. Unfortunately, there is little you can do to prevent her folly except by persuading the father of her child to refuse to take her as his mistress if she will not become his wife. I can understand her reluctance to marry if she is not certain of her affections, but she should be content to remain single.*

• • •

Prodigal Son

"THE parable of 'The Prodigal Son' is being, in a way, repeated in our family circle. Some time ago my husband started our two sons in business. One of them is in the twenties and the other is almost out of his teens.

"Both are well-educated, but whereas the elder is possessed of only slight business ability, the younger is extremely clever, but combined with his cleverness there is a great deal of selfish cunning.

"Now, my husband has little practical knowledge of the business in which he started the two boys, and his object in doing so being to see them properly set up during his lifetime, he has become very dissatisfied at finding that the business has not progressed as well as he expected.

"I am afraid he has displayed his dissatisfaction in a rather impatient way, with the result that the younger boy had a terrible quarrel and was so shockingly rude to his father that he was told to clear out of the house.

"This he promptly did, taking all his portable property and such money as he could find, and we heard no more of him until we received a message from someone with whom he had taken employment.

"He has made no effort to communicate with us and his language before he left was so terrible that we scarcely feel able to make the first advance. Nevertheless, we both feel very sad and his elder brother resents the additional burden of work that has fallen on his shoulders."

"HUMANIST" says: *Surely you will find guidance in the parable to which you refer. When the prodigal was still a long way off his father saw him and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. I think we may assume that his father had sought him and that if the wayward boy had known this he would have returned the sooner. Do not let pride form a barrier to prevent forgiveness.*

• • •

Service and Reward

"FOR a good many years I had been on friendly terms with neighbours who have recently moved away from the district. The family saw a great deal of trouble during the time they lived close to me, and I counted it a privilege to be able to help them in many little ways.

"You can guess that I feel very sore to find that, instead of showing appreciation of the help I was able to give them, they have spoken most unkindly about me, not only to other neighbours here, but to people in the place where they have gone to live.

"Now, the woman has a large family, and they had scarcely moved into their new house before they found a peck of trouble, as the saying is. The mother and three of the children are laid up and the husband has come to me and begged me to go and help to nurse them.

"My husband practically forbids me to go, and says that people who have shown such ingratitude deserve to be left to stew in their own juice.

"At the same time, I cannot get out of my mind the thought of that poor woman and her children suffering, and even though the parents may have been ungrateful, the little ones are innocent. Do you think I ought to go to them?"

"HUMANIST" says: *I always feel that if one is prompted to do a kind action one should do it regardless of whether one is likely to be rewarded with gratitude or not. The virtue of a good deed is two-fold. Your own uneasiness of mind proves that you are missing a blessing yourself so long as you stifle your generous impulse.*

DON'T disappoint the disappointed. Help "The Greatest of These——" Fund. (See page 38.)

Great Pen Offer. (See page 2.)

Cad in the Manger

"THREE years ago, a very great friend of mine married a man whom she thought would prove to be a kind helpmate for life, but very soon after she found that her husband was utterly devoid of any sympathy and was hopelessly cruel and selfish.

"Within a month of their wedding she discovered that there was another woman in his life, and from the time her first child was born he treated her worse than one would treat a dog.

"After the birth of her second child she became mentally deranged and had to spend a long time in hospital.

"She recovered sufficiently to return home, but there was no improvement in her husband's conduct, and his cruelty drove her out of her senses again, so that she attempted suicide and was sent to the asylum where she has remained.

"Even there her husband's cruelty pursues her, for he has refused to allow her relatives to visit her, telling them that no one may call to see her without his permission."

"HUMANIST" says: *What an abominable cad! Of course, he has no right whatever to attempt to prevent her relatives visiting his wife. They should take no notice whatever of him, but communicate with the medical superintendent of the asylum, who will give them permission to visit her if she is in a fit state of mind.*

• • •

A Mother's Grievance

"I am inexpressibly hurt by the circumstances of my daughter's marriage engagement. The young man called on her father to ask for her hand, but I was deliberately kept out of the room while they were talking, and because I resented it my daughter says I have entirely spoilt her happiness."

"Humanist" says: *I can appreciate your grievance, but as your husband has given his consent to the engagement, the future happiness of the young people must be made the first consideration. Try to sink your own feelings for the sake of their welfare.*

Tact

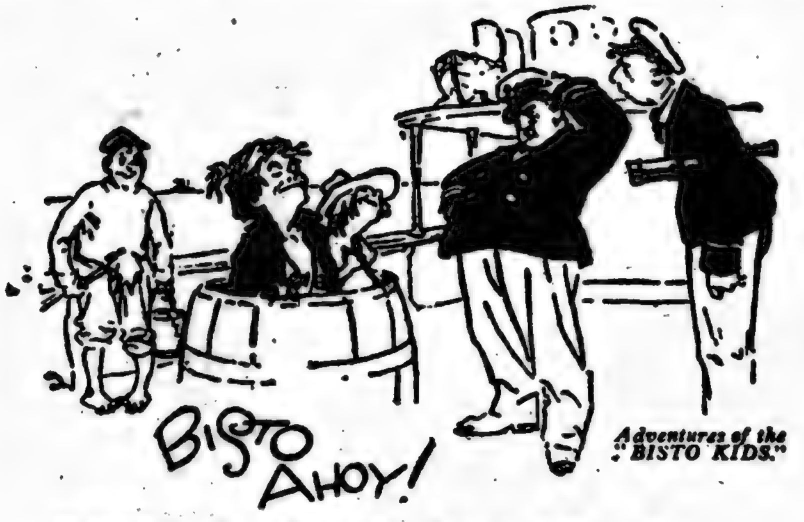
"My daughter, a school-girl of sixteen, spent her holidays with the family of a school-fellow, and on her return has astounded me by telling me that a young man of twenty-one has made love to her and that she wishes me to invite him to the house. It seems to me she is far too young to have admirers of that sort."

"Humanist" says: *I agree with you, but I think you should be very tactful, for with a girl of that age too stern opposition may have the effect of strengthening her determination to carry on her courtship. Invite the young man to your home and urge upon him the advisability of delaying matters.*

Right to a Name

"Just as I am about to be married and require my birth certificate, I have discovered that I have no right to the name which I have already borne, as my parents were not married. Is there any way of arranging matters so that I may feel I have a right to my name?"

"Humanist" says: *I think you are needlessly distressing yourself. It is not necessary for you to produce your birth certificate in order to marry, and it would be perfectly legal for you to be married in the name by which you have always been known.*


BISTO AHOY!
Adventures of the "BISTO KIDS."

The Kids thought what fun it would be
To get a free trip on a liner,
So they hid till the ship put to sea,
When they heard they were sailing for China.
But wherever they went,
They were truly content,
For from the cook's galley there came the old scent,
"It's Bisto! Ah! Bisto!!" they shouted with glee,
"And you cannot use anything finer!"

BISTO
for Soups, Stews and all Meat Dishes.

THE MONEY SPINNERS

Make Money by the Fireside
To Spend in the Sunshine

Here is a profitable hobby to banish dullness these cold nights when the fireside is the best place. And it is such a fascinating hobby too, knitting beautiful things on the Imperia Knitter to bring money for holidays and happiness when the sunshine comes again. You can make a pound or two pounds a week just in spare time and always have money for the things you want.

Here is an Example—

Miss Barnes, Chesham, writes:—"As a girl of fourteen I would like to inform you how proud I am to own an Imperia Knitting Machine which has turned many a dull evening into a pleasure and money which has enabled me to go for a summer holiday by the sea for the first time. So all my thanks to the Imperia Knitter."

We Buy Your Work

We guarantee to buy all you make or you can sell to private customers if you like. It is easy to sell, the work is so perfect and good. You can make jumpers sports coats, hosiery and all sorts of underwear and the Imperia Knitter is so simple you can begin earning at once.

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The Imperia Book tells all about the Imperia Knitter and shows in colour the lovely work you can make. Write for it (it is free) and see what a splendid opportunity it offers. Our Work-Buying Guarantee is in the Book. Don't delay—call or send the Coupon below—now.

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Please send me free and without any obligation your Illustrated Imperia Book giving full particulars of the Imperia Knitter Home-Work Scheme and your Work-Buying Guarantee.

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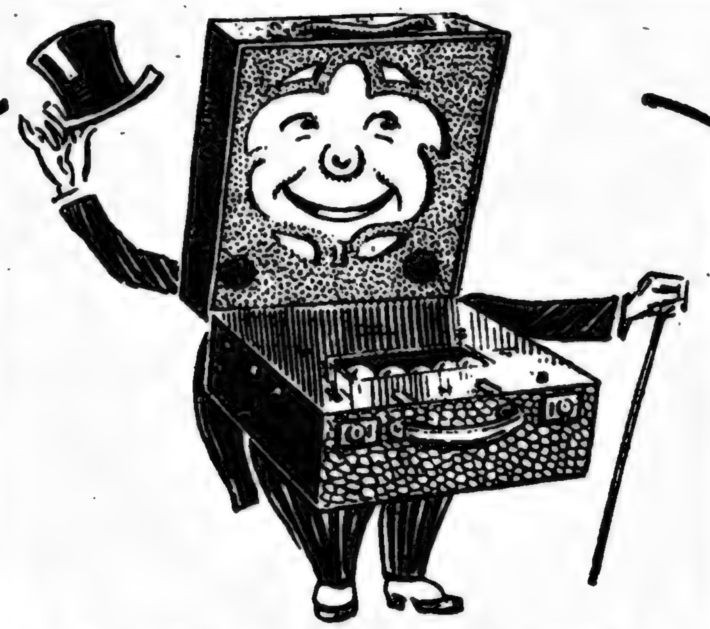
A HOLIDAY YOU CAN AFFORD.



CONGRATULATIONS

Hearty congratulations, Mr. Perkins, on your clever answer to the riddle: "Why is Mr. Langham like Christopher Columbus?"

You will be glad to hear that Mr. Langham is continuing his career with conspicuous success, and now pays regular visits to the most distant broadcasting stations in all parts of the globe.

Will everyone who would like to accompany Mr. Langham on his travels please fill in the coupon below and post it to us? They will then hear how simple and cheap it is to listen comfortably to any Radio Programme in Europe.

Note that the Langham Portable Radio Receiver requires no aerial or earth, and is completely self-contained in a solid leather case.

You can try it for a week in your own homes.

ONLY £6 DOWN

Balance by small instalments.

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To LANGHAM RADIO, 59, New Oxford Street, W.C.1.

Send me full particulars of the Langham Transatlantic Portable and of your week's trial offer.

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FREE!
to all who suffer from
COUGHS, COLDS, BRONCHITIS, INFLUENZA.

Absolutely free of all charge, readers of "John Bull" are offered two days' supply of the famous "Napoleon" Cough Cure Powders. This is not a patent medicine, or "secret" remedy, but a natural substance used for centuries by learned monks for all chest maladies, and now prescribed by more than 100,000 doctors the world over. **It gives immediate relief,** however oldstanding the trouble. Hundreds of grateful patients have written letters similar to this from Mrs. Johnson, 4, Dibble Road, Smethwick. "My cough has completely disappeared. I have never before taken anything to act so quickly."
Test for yourself at our expense.

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POWDERS
"Makes 'Flu Fly."

Send this coupon to-day to
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Please send me, free, a supply of your remarkable "Napoleon" Cough Cure Powders.

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(Use ½d. stamp and leave envelope unsealed.)

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DON'T commit a crime against the girl you love by plunging into marriage if you are not physically fit. Don't do it. She will find you out only too quickly. Then comes the crash—affection lost, happiness impossible! Why take such a chance? Why not take up

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..Catarrh
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..Rupture
..Thinness
..Pimples
..Insomnia
..Overweight
..Weak Back
..Weak Eyes
..Flat Chest
..Despondency
..Emaciation
..Rheumatism
..Nervousness
..Constipation
..Short Breath
..Weak Heart
..Great Strength
..Poor Circulation
..Round Shoulders
..Skin Troubles
..Stomach Disorders
..Increased Height
..Muscular Development

Name ....
Age............ Occupation........................
Street ....
City ....

Our Letter Parliament

The Fight for Peace

Sowing the Seed—How Trade is Killed—Fish Ramping

"WORRY Their Lives Out," by Mr. E. Roffe Thompson (JOHN BULL, January 7), will have the support of all now living who went through the "hell-fire corners" of the last war. As an ex-soldier who went through the horrors of Mons, Landrecies, Aisne, Ypres, La Bassee, Somme and Arras, it is nothing but lunacy to prepare for another war. Thank God we have some men whose voices carry weight proclaiming themselves pacifists.—*H. T. E., Penmaenmawr.*

Forced to Act

Your unceasing fight in support of peace is magnificent. You are doing better work for humanity than all the ministers of religion in the land. You stir in all your readers the earnest desire to help, and Mr. Roffe Thompson's article shows us how! With a million people behind you the other side will have to sit up and take notice.—*Ex-Seaforth (51st Div.), Edinburgh.*

Mournful Memories

My thanks as a war widow go out to Mr. E. Roffe Thompson for his splendid article. A little cross in France and eleven years of utter loneliness and mournful memories are my share of the so-called glory of war. Let the generals lead a campaign in favour of peace and total disarmament, and the women of Britain will speedily lend their aid.—*M. F., Sunderland.*

We Want a Leader!

To kill that which is base, to destroy that which is ugly, is understandable, but deliberately to indulge in an orgy of slaughter which not only destroys human life, but all that is good, useful and beautiful, is sheer lunacy. But denunciation of war by famous generals and newspaper articles is not enough. We want a leader who will organise the people for peace!—*R., Roker.*

Vote! Vote!

Mr. E. Roffe Thompson's suggestion for a referendum seems to me quite reasonable and feasible. On the question of getting electric light in our locality every ratepayer was recently canvassed. A referendum on the far more important question of war could be quite as easily arranged, and what incalculable benefits might accrue!—*E. A., Bridgend.*

Cadet Madness

Your contributor's suggestions on peace need taking to heart by education authorities. In a new secondary school a cadet corps has been formed and the boys are exhorted to join. The suggestion that cadet training with rifles produces manliness needs refuting with preparation for war begets war and war means beastliness. Manliness can be formed in other and better ways.—*S. P., Putney.*

Telling Testimony

There are, unfortunately, still to be found people who believe pacifism to be the product of either a disordered mind or an unpatriotic spirit, but surely the testimony of such authorities as Field-Marshal Sir W. Robertson, Admiral Sir Percy Scott, and Air Marshal Sir Hugh Trenchard will be the means of dispelling any such illusions?—*J. M. J., Barry.*

Follow the Prince

The extract from the Prince of Wales' speech, at the head of Mr. E. Roffe Thompson's article is splendid. If those in high places who follow the Prince in fashion and society customs would be as enthusiastic as he is in this matter of seeking peace and ensuring it, the war-mongers would have their actions scotched, and war preparations would be stopped.—*H., Bolton.*

Brief-to-the-point letters not exceeding 100 words are invited. 5s. is paid for each letter published. Name and address essential, not necessarily for publication. Envelopes must be marked "Letter Parliament."

◆

Fruits for the Future

"The Ace of Trumps," by Mr. A. G. Gardiner (JOHN BULL, January 7), is already posted up at our colliery on the "notice board," and is being read by every workman and official. Next to your peace effort, this industrial move is about the best thing attempted, and I hope that success will crown the efforts of the people concerned. As the writer pointed out, we must not expect a miracle, but if the seed will reach good ground the fruits will be ours in the near future.—*Poster, Treorchy.*

The Boot Bursters

JOHN BULL is first again in denouncing what is really the greatest employment ramp of the present day. I, a crippled miner, was desirous of keeping off the "dole," if it were at all possible to get a bare existence otherwise. I approached a brush firm after reading its advertisement, and to pay the premium pawned the wife's wedding-ring. I found, as others have done, that earnings on commission would barely pay my travelling expenses. Why don't these firms do their business humanely?—*C. B., Darnall.*

Poor Old Trudgers!

Our village is nearly four miles from the nearest relieving office, but two poor women, nearly seventy years of age, have to trudge down every week in all weathers for their allowance. One has to leave a bedridden husband, the other can scarcely hobble along, but go they must or starve. Why should not relieving officers pay the old folk in their own homes. Still, it might not be good policy. The lives of the old people would probably be prolonged if they did, and so cost the guardians more.—*Disgusted, Sheffield.*

◆

Printers' Pie

[*Half-a-crown is paid to the sender of every item published. Mark envelopes "Pie."*]

"SOUTH WALES ECHO":—"It was a great discomfort to have drinking water DILUTED BY CARELESS CHILDREN."

"WEEKLY RECORD":—"He was seen by a signalman who telephoned up the line to have the RAIN stopped."

"KENT EVENING ECHO" (Advt.):—"A fine selection of HEN'S soft felt hats."

"BEDS AND HERTS PICTORIAL":—"Since the beginning of the present century, autumn has been the most popular REASON for weddings."

"DAILY EXPRESS" (Advt.):—"Linen Sheets 94 ins. wide x 34 YDS. LONG, 45s. pair."

"CORK EXAMINER":—"Wanted man, TO FOLLOW HORSE (INDOOR). Apply——"

"WOMAN'S COMPANION":—"Surely it was being made up to her. . . . Life could not all be a CRUET JEST."

"LIVERPOOL ECHO":—"New Stumpy Umbrellas. . . . A useful size that gives all the NEEDED WARMTH WITHOUT WEIGHT."

"ALDERSHOT NEWS AND FARNBOROUGH CHRONICLE":—"Placing the CHAIR round the mayor's neck —— observed, 'I would like to congratulate you.'"

"SHEFFIELD TELEGRAPH AND STAR":—"Snow and STEEL fell on the east coast."

When Words Fail

I should like to emphasise the value of the cartoons by George Whitelaw that appear in JOHN BULL weekly. They exactly hit off a situation every time in a way words would fail to do. I look for the cartoon almost as a first feature. Poor old Stanley and the economy proposal!—*R. E., Birmingham.*

Poison Points

If bottles which contain poisons were made with raised points of glass it would ensure their being handled with circumspection, besides acting as a reminder of the dangerous contents. The possibility of selecting the wrong bottle in the dark would also be almost entirely eliminated. —*W. R. C., Crosshill.*

What a Wage!

When a coloured seaman was fined by the Middlesbrough Bench for peddling cheap goods, it was discovered that the man's wages were only £2 per month. No one can blame him for trying to increase his slender means, but we can all understand why so many British seamen are out of work, when Lascars can be got for 10s. per week.—*G. M., Middlesbrough.*

For Fools

The article, "A Sevenpenny Sin School" (JOHN BULL, January 7), in which you deprecate the spreading of questionable "art" and "literature" among children, might have included those objectionable "peepshows" at fairs and watering-places. Instead of "For Gents. Only" the manufacturers should be forced to stamp them "For Fools Only."—*E. T., Glasgow.*

Criminal Apathy

My school, an antiquated building, is so ill-lighted that for at least two months of the year it is impossible for over 150 children to see to read and write without eyestrain. Government officials are appalled by the conditions, but nothing is done, and in due course the medical officer visits, recommends children for treatment at the eye-clinic, and more are added to the already large army of bespectacled youth.—*Headmaster, Country School.*

Killing Taxes

The truth of Mr. T. J. Macnamara's article, "Alice in Blunderland" (JOHN BULL, January 7), is revealed by a north-east coast shipbuilding company having to appeal against the increased taxes on its works. An expert London valuer considered £5,000 a nominal assessment of the works present condition, but the local authorities want £14,000. These local taxes are killing trade.—*W. B., Newcastle.*

Biter Bitten

In the fish market of a northern town the price for dried fish wasn't high enough to suit one merchant, so, instead of selling, he placed 100 one-stone boxes of smoked haddocks into cold storage. After keeping them in cold storage for three months, he had to send them to the destructor. Yet many people in that town were nearly starving.—*S., Southsea.*

National Health Trap

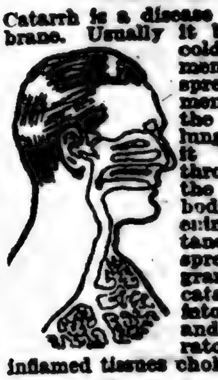
Suffering great pain, I visited a doctor who ordered me to bed for three days. When I called on the fourth day, and received a letter to hospital, I asked for a certificate. He informed me he was unable to give it for the date I first called because (in my pain) I had not thought to ask for it. Six days suffering for an ex-soldier without "dole" or pension, who is now in bed cursing the man who conceived such a law to oppress the suffering poor. —*H. E., London, W.*

What is Catarrh?

An insidious scourge—how to recognise it—its effect on general health—how to get rid of it quickly, pleasantly, certainly.

Doctors say that four out of five people suffer from some form of catarrhal trouble. Doctors say, moreover, that it is an insidious scourge whose presence is often quite unsuspected by its victim but whose effects are all the more serious because they are consequently allowed to go unchecked.

What is Catarrh?



Catarrh is a disease of the mucous membrane. Usually it begins with a simple cold in the head. Commencing in the nostrils, it spreads to all the mucous membranes of the head, the nose, the throat, the lungs and stomach. Thence it spreads its poison through the blood all over the body, sapping the bodily energy and weakening the powers of resistance to disease and germ-spread illnesses. This diagram shows how the catarrhal infection spreads into all the minute passages and channels of the respiratory system, till the inflamed tissues choke the tiny airways.

How to Know Catarrh.

If you catch one cold after another; if your eyes are inflamed and watery; if there is a huskiness of the voice; if there is a constant discharge from the nose, forming scabs, or the dropping of phlegm into the throat, causing frequent spitting of white, yellowish, or greenish mucus, with an offensive breath; if there is difficulty in breathing with the mouth closed, or loss of the sense of smell or taste, you may know you have catarrh. If you have catarrh of the throat, you will feel hoarseness, sore throat, weakness of voice, frequent desire to clear throat, etc. Catarrhal deafness brings failure of hearing, noises in the head, ringing, roaring and popping. None of these symptoms should be neglected, because it cannot be too strongly urged that catarrh will spread its ill-effects through the whole of your body.

How to Get Rid of Catarrh.

Having seen how catarrh inflames the membranes in all the minute passages and channels it is evident that the only way to effect a remedy is to employ some healing element which can actually reach the parts that are infected. Obviously ointments cannot do this, nor can liquid sprays reach more than the outer parts, while no stomach medicine can affect the passages of throat and nose. Fortunately there is one remedy which is not only unfailingly effective in penetrating to every affected part, but is also exceedingly pleasant. It is put up in the form of delicate cigarettes containing no tobacco, cubebs, or habit-forming drugs, but made of aromatic herbs, leaves and flowers, and called after the famous U.S. Specialist who discovered them, Dr. Blosser's Cigarettes. The healing properties of these herbs and flowers are carried by the act of smoking into every nook and cranny of the respiratory system, where they soothe the inflamed tissues and banish all trace of catarrhal trouble in a very short time. This diagram shows clearly how the healing vapours of Dr. Blosser's Cigarettes reach every part that could possibly be affected.

How to Prove It.

If you think you have the slightest trace of any catarrhal trouble, colds, asthma, bronchitis, etc., etc., just send a post card or the coupon below and we will send you, without cost to you, a few of the actual Dr. Blosser's Cigarettes for you to try. We make this offer in all sincerity and you would be wise to take advantage of it now, before this paper gets mislaid. When you have proved them yourself, you can get further supplies at any chemist's. Boots, Taylors' and all progressive chemists have a supply.

FREE PACKET.

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Please send by post your Trial Package containing four Dr. Blosser's Cigarettes, that I may try them free of charge.

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TOWN ....

(Print with pencil very, very plainly).

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The Mennen Scientific Process—for Rapid Beard Softening.

IN TUBES 1/6
EXTRA LARGE 2/-

Half an inch of Mennen on your brush gives you a super shave. Why? Mennen scientific beard softening called Dermutation prepares any beard for a super shave in the moment it takes to adjust your razor. Use any water, hot, cold, hard, soft. They're all alike to Mennen.

Mennen Skin Balm, the after shaving antiseptic—just the thing to remove face shine and heal small cuts. Greaseless, absorbs quickly. In tubes, handier to use than bottled lotions.

Mennen Shaving Cream & Mennen Skin Balm are for sale everywhere.

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THE MENNEN COMPANY
MENNEN SKIN BALM
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SEE COUPON——14 DAY TUBES FREE

MENNEN SHAVING CREAM

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Mennen JB.8, c/o Fassett & Johnson, Ltd.
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Send me two 14-day tubes as follows: Mennen Shaving Cream. Mennen Skin Balm. I enclose 4d. for postage and packing.

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FOR SUFFERERS FROM

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LUMBAGO
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RHEUMATISM

If you are a sufferer from any of these nerve-racking complaints, get a bottle of Esmolin at once. If it fails to relieve the pain return the empty bottle to address given below and your money will be returned immediately.

Esmolin DRAWS OUT THE PAIN

Thousands of one-time sufferers have already experienced the almost miraculous pain-killing properties of Esmolin Embrocation. Even the most aggravated and obstinate cases have yielded to its soothing qualities. It is easy to apply, safe to use and sure in its results. Just apply Esmolin to the affected part and you will be surprised how rapidly relief comes. In every home where there is a case of Neuritis, Rheumatism, Sciatica or Lumbago, a bottle of Esmolin Embrocation should be kept handy for immediate use. It is on sale at all leading Chemists, price 1/3 and 3/- a bottle.

Send for Sample and Test it FREE

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20/- in the £ ALWAYS.

FIRST SHOTS AT THE LINCOLN

The Pick of a Good Nap Hand—Orbindos, Fohanaun and Vanoc—More about White Park—Week-end Winners

NOW that Mr. Penrhyn-Hornby has let the cat out of the bag and handicapped the Lincolnshire horses, we shall be on safer ground in having our little tilt at the commission-agents who specialise in ante-post betting.

MY own nap hand comprises the top-weights, Priory Park and Fohanaun, Orbindos—in with 2 lbs. more than I suggested last week—Vanoc—not over-burdened with 7st. 13lb.—and Fancy Free, asked to carry a pound less than the Shrewton horse.

OF the three of the higher division, I am inclined to Orbindos. Priory Park may follow in the footsteps of Ob and win the race for the second year in succession, but the records of the Lincoln show that this feat is not often accomplished.

I HAVE a marked fear of Fohanaun. The chief thing against Mr. Joel's five-year-old is his method of leaving the gate. As a youngster, Fohanaun was away like a shot from a gun, but last season he lost the Wokingham and the Stewards' Cup—and a great chance of the Cambridgeshire—by striking off slowly.

ORBINDOS is, of course, a fully-exposed horse, and he showed throughout last season that he is probably the gamest animal in training. When finishing fourth in the Cambridgeshire, he had Fohanaun treading on his heels and now he meets the latter on one pound worse terms.

IT is bound to be a close call between the pair, but Gwilt's five-year-old may have that little bit of luck which he lacked on the Carholme last March. As the Whatcombe stable has no entry in the race, I should like to see Michael Beary in the saddle once more. A. Burns is a fine little jockey, but he lacks Beary's strength when it comes to a tight finish.

E. D. Gwilt, trainer of Orbindos

VANOC will probably be the mount of Steve Donoghue, and his victories on Granely and Tapin in recent years indicate that there is bound to be danger from the combination, if the money is down for the son of Hurry On.

THE four-year-old first came under my notice at Ascot, when he finished close up third to Sundry and Knight of the Grail in the Trial Stakes, with Hot Night, giving eight pounds, down the course. Vanoc catches the eye as a massive picture horse, and I believe he is as good as he looks. He stands close on 17 hands, and was purchased at the Doncaster Sales by Lady Torrington on the advice of Donoghue.

NOW we come to Fancy Free. Lord Wimborne's four-year-old is a filly, which is a point against her success, but she ran several races last season which bring her right into the limelight. Probably her best performance was at Nottingham, when she beat Inca over a mile. On the terms they met on that occasion, Inca, if entered, would figure in the Lincoln at 8 st. 13.

THE MOHAWK, the hope of the North, has not been let in very leniently, and I cannot see a King of Clubs or a White Bud, in the division under 7 st., but the race is a long way ahead. However, for those who are taking prices, I suggest—

ORBINDOS,
FOHANAUN, and
VANOC.

THE Grand National weights are due, so I shall be able to suggest one or two sporting doubles in my next notes. Several readers have asked me for more particulars of White Park, but as the young 'chaser has not been out since Sprig's "National" there is not much to report.

HE does not possess the frame one usually associates with Aintree horses, and he is, unhappily, the possessor of a delicate constitution, his diet being a bucket of milk each day from a Dexter cow, but there is a touch of class about his breeding—Redmond—Lady Alwine—and although he was knocked off his feet last year, he showed, by completing the course, that the fences are within his compass.

ERIC FOSTER, who has ridden the gelding in most of his races, is recovering in a Cheltenham nursing-home from pneumonia. He has a wonderfully high opinion of White Park's fencing and pluck, and will probably have the mount once more if he is able to return to the saddle.

SOME surprise has been caused by the fact that we have been spared the usual French invasion of the Lincolnshire. My Correspondent "on the other side" tells me that this is due to pique. The French are annoyed over the insistence of the English Jockey Club on calculating penalties on the basis of the franc at par, because this means that in addition to getting maximum weight from the handicapper, a horse may earn the maximum penalty by winning a trumpery race. Horses are thus penalised not for what they do, but for the faults of the French currency.

GEORGE DULLER celebrates his thirty-sixth birthday next week. The crack hurdle jockey has not been in the limelight quite so much recently, but it is not often that we have three or four weeks blotted out of a season's racing.

DULLER has no equal in judgment of pace, and the time taken in a race in which he has ridden. I know that it is one of his habits, after a victory, to ask the holder of the "clock": "What did you make it, 4 min. 8½?" He is seldom more than a second wrong.

I HAVE been hoping to put before JOHN BULL readers a useful half-a-dozen to follow for the rest of the jumping season, but abandoned meetings do not make them easy to find. I suggested that juvenile form would be upset when the three-year-olds—now four-year-olds—had to travel over an extra half mile, and this happened at Gatwick when Good Hunting beat Dresden and company. Dresden or Rathnally would have won over the shorter distance. However, I made a note of Confrere in this event. He was just beaten out of a place, and is certain to pop up soon.

GIBUS, on the second day, is another money-spinner. He should have won the Amateur Riders' 'Chase, but his jockey was too confident at the last jump and the gelding came to grief. Great Span, who finished third to Red Lynch, will also pay to follow. He has the makings of a fine 'chaser and is just recovering from leg trouble.

THE South has the racing to itself this week, but until the state of the turf improves considerably fields will be on the small side. At Lingfield on Thursday Great Span may pop up in the Weald 'Chase, but he will have a dangerous rival in Spear o' War. The only other wager I suggest at the meeting is Expert, who was probably second best to Cloth-of Gold last time out. I know he is expected to pick up a race in the near future.

AT Windsor on Saturday Seize stands out in the Peascod Selling Hurdle. Mr. Corrigan's nine-year-old has been running well in fair-class handicaps. On Saturday Flashing Light may do us another good turn, and I advise Parson's Well as an each-way long-shot.

"SILVER RING."

Two coded selections will be given daily in *The Sporting Life*.

2 D R G O U B S K W 3 P V Q

Y J I N H A C M E Z T X L F

How to read the code: In place of the letters or figures advertised in *The Sporting Life* read those above or below the line as the case may be. ZOR3KXUIE would read WHITE PARK.

The code will be changed in next week's JOHN BULL. It covers the racing from Wednesday, January 18, to Tuesday, January 24.

"Soccer" Selections

WEEK-END COUPS.

6 HOME.—Arsenal, Bolton, Manchester C., Preston, Rochdale, Swindon.

5 HOME.—Leicester, Manchester C., Preston, West Bromwich, Lincoln.

4 HOME.—Arsenal, West Bromwich, Southport, Swindon.

3 AWAY.—Everton, Doncaster, Plymouth.

3 DRAWS.—Sheffield W. v. Blackburn, Notts Forest v. Leeds, Torquay v. Norwich.

3 HOME, 2 AWAY.—Manchester C., Preston, Swindon, Everton, Stockport.

For best reports on the Cup Ties read
"THE Sporting Life"
2d. DAILY

1 HOME, 1 AWAY, 1 DRAW.—Leicester, Port Vale, Stoke v. Oldham.

SPECIAL 5 HOME (LEAGUES I & II).—Burnley, Newcastle, Bristol C., Manchester C. Preston.

FORECASTS FOR JAN. 28.

(As JOHN BULL goes to press before the Third Round F.A. Cup Ties are played, a full list of forecasts cannot be given.)

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III (Northern).
HOME WINNERS.—Ashington, Barrow, Doncaster.

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III (Southern).
HOME WINNERS.—Brentford, Brighton, Norwich, Watford.

THE SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

HOME WINNERS.—Clyde, Falkirk, Hamilton, Hibs., Glasgow Rangers.

AWAY WINNERS.—Celtic, Hearts, Motherwell.

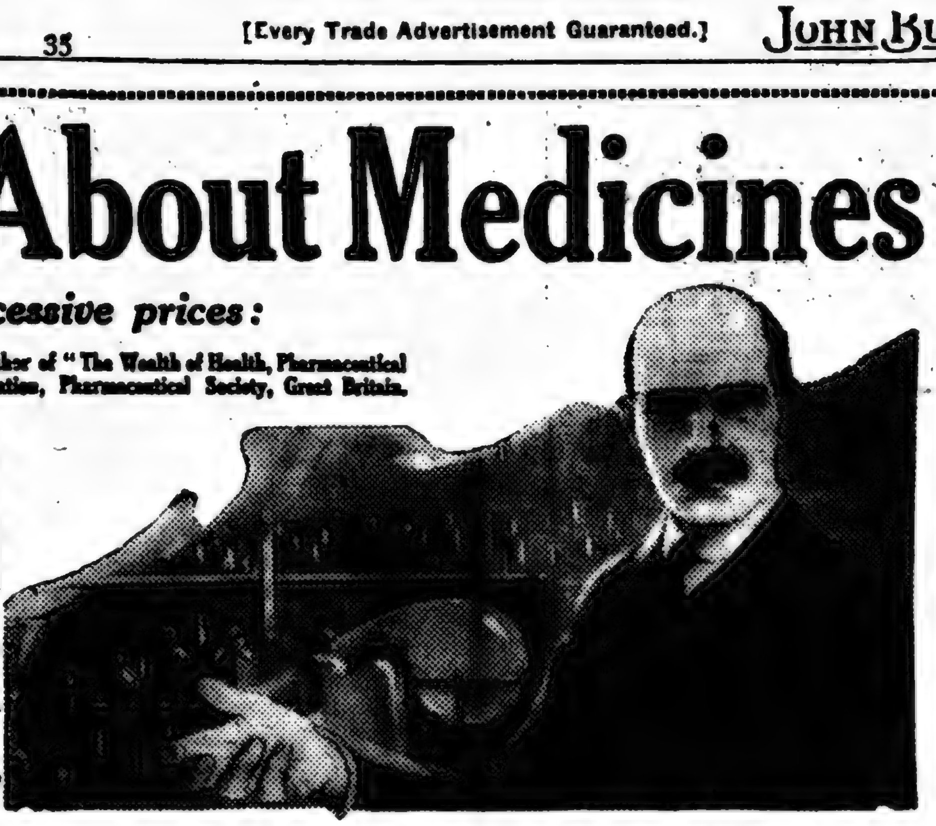
DRAWS.—Dunfermline v. Aberdeen, Raith v. Cowdenbeath.

What I Know About Medicines

and how you can avoid paying excessive prices:

By Mr. Wm. Shadforth, Ph.C., Editor "Health News," Author of "The Wealth of Health, Pharmaceutical Chemist, Highest Qualification, Pharmaceutical Society, Great Britain.

The high cost of drugs is very hard on the sick. Antipyrin, Cascara, Citrates, Hexamine, Magnesia, Phenacetin, Quinine, Salicylates, &c., are still above pre-war prices. Chemists are not to blame for high prices. As a large buyer I am able to dispense medicines at reasonable fees. A few specimens are mentioned below. More home remedies are contained in my publication "The Wealth of Health" (336 pages, sold at 2/6). I will be pleased to give a copy to all purchasers of any of the following prescriptions, who fill in the attached coupon and enclose the necessary cash.



LOOK FOR YOUR AILMENT BELOW, SEND FOR MEDICINE AT PRICES NAMED.

Mr. Shadforth's reputation as a high-class Chemist guarantees the quality and genuineness of these prescriptions.

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NO PAIN AFTER EATING AND EAT WHAT YOU LIKE.

Thousands of sufferers from Acidity, Heartburn, Sour Stomach, Fermentative Dyspepsia, Gastric Catarrh, Wind or Flatulence, Fullness after Meals, and all forms of acid indigestion, have been aided by the following prescription:

Bismuth Carb. Soda Bicarb. Magnesia Carb. Carminatives—Aniseed, Peppermint, etc. In Tablets.

Known as Shadforth Prescription No. 1,077.

VALUE OF INGREDIENTS. *Prescribed by Physicians the world over.*

BISMUTH soothes and heals the catarrhal surfaces of stomach and bowels. It is also absorbent. MAGNESIA is antacid. SODA BI-CARBONATE is antacid. ANISEED and PEPPERMINT act as carminatives.

This prescription is a non-purgative. Avoid fried, oily foods and excess of starchy foods for a few days. Dose—2 tablets before each meal. You feel easier in five minutes. Note the steady improvement; clean tongue; moist mouth and throat; flatulence vanished; long sour face replaced by such broad, sweet smiles that your friends marvel at the magic change. Sizes 1/3 (72), 2/6 (144). Where the Indigestion and Acidity is Exceptionally Uncomfortable and Painful, Special Prescription for Painful Dyspepsia, No. 15, should be taken in addition. Price 1/9 (72), 3/3 (144 tablets).

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Hundreds have obtained relief from

The Shadforth "Triplex" Gout Treatment (No. 74 Triplex)

comprises:

(1) A pill which drives out the uric acid. *Colchicum, Hyocyamus, Blue Pill, etc.*
(2) A tablet which kills pain and reduces inflammation. *Aspirin, Phenacetin etc.*
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This Treatment is excellent for Neuritis, Arthritis, Sciatica, Backache, Lumbago, and similar pains.

Trial Course, 5/6. Full Course, 12/6. Double Course, 20/-

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Nasal Catarrh, Influenza Cold.

Get rid of them before they become serious by means of

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(1) Nose and Mouth Wash Antiseptic Tablets. *Phenol, Soda, Thymol, etc.*
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(3) Anti-Catarrh (Dr. Ferrier's) Snuff.

Worth Pounds—often saves a big doctor's bill and a couple of weeks off work.

Nasal Catarrh is often the first stage of BRONCHITIS, COLD ON THE CHEST, PNEUMONIA, THROAT, EAR and LUNG TROUBLES.

Breathe through your nose, not through your mouth. Keep mouth and nose germ-free by the timely and regular use of this treatment, and dwell long in the land of the living. Ordinary Course, 4/6. Double Course, 8/6. Three times quantities 12/6.

HÆMORRHOIDS, CONSTIPATION, SLUGGISH LIVER, AND ATONIC DYSPEPSIA. (Prescription 594.)

Cascara, Nux Vomica, Hyoscyamus, and Gentian.

Price 2/6 (72), 4/6 (144 pills).

A good pile ointment to use with these pills is No. 1022. Price 2/6. May also be used in conjunction with Agarine Constipation Cream. No. 1314. 2/6.

HEVERILL OLD SALTS. (Prescription 868K).

A Spoonful a day keeps the doctor away.

The best Saline for Biliousness, Constipation, Disordered Stomach, Sluggish Liver, Bladder and Kidney Troubles, Gout, Rheumatism, Fevers, etc.

For Sparkling Eyes and Joie de Vivre.

½ lb. 1/6, 1 lb. 2/6.

VITAMIN-SUNSHINE. The new compound for Anæmia, Debility, Rickets, Threatened Tuberculosis.

(Prescription 1063)

Malt, Marrow, Blood, Yeast, Chlorophyll, Phosphorus, Iron. In tablets with directions. For Adults or Children. Price 1/3 (30), 2/6 (72), 4/6 (144).

BRIGHT EYES, LOVELY COMPLEXIONS.

A Complexion Tonic for Complexion Troubles. (Prescription 442)

Charcoal, Dried Sulph. Iron, Calcium Sulphide, Nux Vomica Extract, Gentian Extract. Price 1/9 (72), 3/3 (144), 9/- (432 tablets).

Full Course of Treatment for Complexion Troubles (No. 442T) costs 6/- and 17/-

SLEEPLESSNESS, NERVE EXCITABILITY. (Prescription 32).

Better than Alcohol, Sulphonal, Veronal, or German Drugs. Does not form the drug habit.

Scullcap, Gentian, Valerian, Asafetida, Lupuline.

Price 1/6 (25), 2/6 (50), 4/6 (100 pills).

PREMATURE OLD AGE. Specialist's New Gland Treatment. (Pres. 1133)

Orchitic, Cerebral, Spinal, Lymphatic substances, with Glycerophosphates and Nux Vomica. For all forms of debility. With directions.

Price 3/6 (36), 6/6 (72), 12/6 (144 tablets).

DYSPEPSIA, FLATULENCE. (Prescription 882.)

Contains Nature's Digestive Juices in tablets.

Pepsin, Malt Extract, Diastase, Charcoal, Cascara Extract.

Non-purgative, promotes digestion and full nourishment.

Price 1/6 (50), 2/9 (100).

OX-GALL OBESITY SOAP. (Prescrip. 989.)

Composed of Pure Soap, Perfume and Prepared Ox-gall.

Used for bath massage purposes in obesity, greasy, oily skins, and fatty complexions. Rub thoroughly to form a lather and wash out with warm water. Massage well. The purest soap known. Price 1/3 per tab.

ARTERIO-SCLEROSIS. Blood Pressure Breakdowns Unnecessary. (Prescription 1,108.)

Specialist's known and approved prescription for brittle arteries.

Soda Sulphate, Soda Chloride, Soda Carbonate, Neutral Soda Phosphate, Soda Nitrite, Magnesia Phosphate, Calcium Glycerophosphate in each tablet.

Price 2/6 (100 tablets).

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Useful for Anæmic brain-workers, either male or female.

Blaud Pill, Calc. Sulph., Aloes, Manganese Citrate, Nux Vomica Extract, Lecithin. With directions.

Price 2/- (72), and 3/6 (144 pills).

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Mercury Perchl., Creosote, Zinc Ointment.

To be applied night and morning. Price 1/6 and 4/-

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Lanolin, Witch Hazel, Antiseptics, with Directions. Price 1/3.

For Broken Chilblains use No. 562. Price 1/3.

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This book is published at 2/6, and contains 336 pages packed with information which would cost you pounds to obtain elsewhere. Please use the coupon and order early before my stock is exhausted.

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Arterio-Sclerosis
Astigmatism
Asthma
Auto-Intoxication
Backache
Barber's Rash
Baldness
Barrenness
Bed-Wetting
Biliousness
Birth-Control
Blackheads
Blood
Blood Impurities
Blood Pressure
Blushing
Boils
Bright's Disease
Bronchitis
Bunions
Bust Development
Cancer
Carbuncles
Chafing
Change of Life
Chicken Pox
Chilblains
Chorea
Cirrhosis
Citizenship
Colitis
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Complexion
Conjunctivitis
Conscription
Constipation
Consumption
Contraceptoids
Convulsions
Corns
Coryza
Coughs and Colds
Croup
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Dandruff
Depilatories
Diabetes
Diarrhœa
Delirium Tremens
Diphtheria
Dipsomania
Disease, the Problem of
Dizziness
Dog Ailments
Drug Habit
Dropsy
Dysmenorrhœa
Dyspepsia
Ear Troubles
Eczema
Electrolysis
Elephantiasis
Emphysema
Endowment of Motherhood
Enuresia
Epilepsy
Erysipelas
Eye Trouble
Fibroids
Fistula
Freckles
Gall Stones
Gastralgia
Gastric Catarrh
Gastric Ulcer
Gastritis
Gastrodynia
Gland Treatment
Goitre
Gout
Gravel
Graves Disease
Gripes
Hair Dressings
Hair Dyes
Hair Restorers
Hay Fever
Headache
Heart Disease
Hernia
Herpes Zoster
Hives
Hoarseness
Housemaid's Knee
Hygiene of the Mind
Hypermetropia
Hysteria
Icthyosis
Impetigo
Impotence
Indigestion, Adults
Indigestion, Children
Influenza
Insect Bites
Intertrigo
Itch
Jaundice
Laryngitis
Leucorrhœa
Lice
Liver
Locomotor Ataxia
Lukemia
Lumbago
Lupus
Malaria
Menieres Disease
Menorrhagia
Metabolism
Migraine
Moles
Myalgia
Myopia
Nasal Catarrh
Nephritis
Obesity
Oxygen Baths
Pallor
Paralysis
Peptic Ulcer
Peritonitis
Perspiration
Pharyngitis
Phlebitis
Phosphaturia
Pigeon Ailments
Piles
Pimples
Pleurisy
Poultry Ailments
Presbyopia
Prickly Heat
Prohibition
Prostatitis
Pruritis
Psoriasis
Pyorrhœa
Quinsy
Respiration
Rheumatic Fever
Rheumatism (Muscular)
Rheumatoid Arthritis
Rickets
Ringworm
Rupture
Scabies
Scurf
Sea Sickness
Seborrhœa
Secular Education
Shingles
Sleeplessness
Spectacles
Squint
Stricture
Stomach
St. Vitus Dance
Styes
Superfluous Hair
Sycosis
Synovitis
Tattoo Marks
Thinness
Tumours
Ulcers
Uræmia
Urethritis
Urticaria
Varicocele
Varicose Veins
Vertigo
Vitamins
Vomiting
Warts
What Pain does for us
Whooping Cough
Worms
Wrinkles.

COUPON

To Mr. Wm. Shadforth, *Pharmaceutical Chemist,*
63, Grove Road, Bow, London, E. 3.

Please include a copy of your medical book "The Wealth of Health" (336 pages) with my order. I enclose an additional 4d. to cover the postal and office charges connected with the dispatch of this book. My name and address are given below.

Name..

Street..

Town..

NOTE.—If you wish to do so, after you have filled in your name and address, you may hand this coupon (with the 4d.) to any of your local chemists, drug stores, or co-operative societies. They will obtain the book and goods for you, and receive the usual trade discount for their services. "John Bull," Jan. 21st, 1928

You can obtain these Prescriptions post free, at the prices named (abroad extra) from

Mr. Wm. Shadforth, Pharmaceutical Chemist, (Shadforth Prescription Service Ltd.)
63, (Dept. J.B. 107) Grove Road, Bow, London, E.3.

Branches: 47 King William Street, London Bridge, E.C.4; 168 High Street, Walthamstow, E.17 and 114 Green Lane, Becontree Heath.

Ryders SEEDS

Ryders Catalogue for the 1928 Season is now ready, and will be posted free to all, but early applications are absolutely essential. This Catalogue is full of the most instructive information on gardens, and contains richly coloured plates, also many delightful black and white illustrations.

STUDY ECONOMY AND OBTAIN THE BEST RESULTS IN THE GARDEN BY PURCHASING RYDERS FAMOUS SEEDS IN THE POPULAR 2d. PACKETS.

Send a postcard for your copy of the 1928 Catalogue to-day.

RYDER & SON (1920) Ltd., Seed Merchants

St. Albans

ONE PILL BEFORE THE FINAL MEAL

If you could see yourself inside you might find the explanation of languidness. lack of appetite and the absence of healthy vigour. Such troubles come from a sluggish liver, and an inactive digestion, and can be righted by one of Dr. Grey's Silver Liver Pills, taken just before the last meal.

A SPECIALIST'S PRESCRIPTION FOR YOU

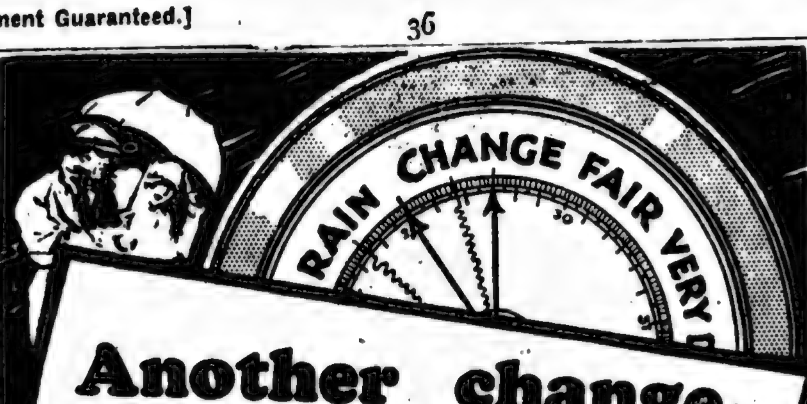
Prepared from the prescription of an eminent London specialist, they tone up the system, disinfect the stomach, and relieve cases of **Anaemia, General Lassitude, Languor, Depression, Heartburn, Constipation, Flatulence and Indigestion.** They never lose their effect. The ingredients of these Pills are of purely vegetable origin, and they may be taken (before the last meal) alike by adults and children. *Every pill is a policy for health.*

Price 1/3 and 3/-

Obtainable from Boots, The Chemists; Taylor's Drug Co., Ltd., Timothy White Co., Ltd., and all other Chemists.

Dr. Grey's SILVER LIVER PILLS

Dr. Grey's Silver Pill Co., Ltd.,
30, Orchard Street, London, W. 1.



Another change —another Cold

COUGHS, COLDS, 'FLU and ASTHMA are rife these days. Be on your guard. At the first sign of throat irritation—at the very first sniff or sneeze, take Veno's and check the danger at its source. Veno's is quick, soothing and effective. Contains no morphia or other dangerous drug.

VENO'S

1/3 & 3/- per bottle

LIGHTNING COUGH CURE

for **INFLUENZA, ASTHMA, SORE THROAT, BRONCHITIS, WHOOPING COUGH, CATARRH, ETC.**

Sole Distributors: Veno Drug Co. (1925) Ltd.

THE UNFAILING REMEDY FOR 25 YEARS

INDIGESTION STOPS AT ONCE

Whatever strides science may have made in combating diseases, no better remedy has been discovered for stopping indigestion than 'Bisurated' Magnesia, which to-day is used by thousands of stomach sufferers with never-failing success. 'Bisurated' Magnesia treats indigestion in the only logical way, by instantly neutralising excess acids, preventing fermentation, and soothing, healing and strengthening the inflamed stomach lining, which soon becomes healthy and strong. 'Bisurated' Magnesia is sold by all chemists in either powder or tablet form at 1s. 3d. a package. It is the remedy that is recommended by doctors. It is used in hospitals and by thousands of one-time sufferers who have proved again and again that 'Bisurated' Magnesia is an unfailing reliever of all acid-caused digestive troubles.

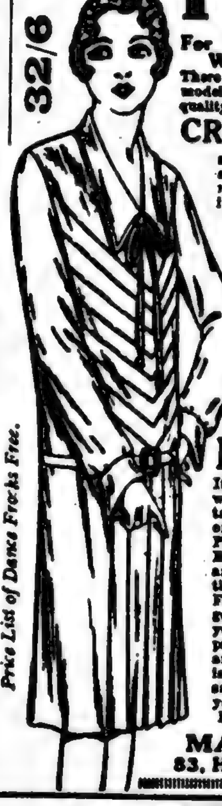
LAXATIVE, LIVER PILL OF VEGETABLE EXTRACTS

Weakening Salts & Purgatives Superseded

For upwards of 30 years Bile Beans have been a highly successful family medicine. The reason is that Bile Beans are purely vegetable and do not contain calomel (mercury), or any other weakening mineral drug. Dosing the system with salts and purgative mineral pills is like "flogging a tired horse."

Bile Beans are a mild yet thoroughly efficacious vegetable preparation that naturally purifies and tones up the alimentary system. Bile Beans act directly on the liver as well as on the bowels. They do not gripe but are gentle while thorough, they are not "habit forming" and do not call for increased doses as in the case of ordinary pills. One or two Bile Beans at night and after the mid-day meal is the safest method of banishing indigestion, bilious attacks, sick headaches, dizziness, anæmia, constipation, pimples, and general debility. 1/3, or 3/- family size. Sealed boxes only.

ABSOLUTELY FREE TEST! Every reader mentioning "John Bull," 21/1/28, can obtain FREE a neat sample box by sending name and address to Bile Beans, Leeds.



"PARTY" FROCK

32/6

For Evening Wear, Dancing, Whist Drives and Parties.

There is real charm in this delightful model, beautifully made in very fine quality artificial

CREPE DE-CHINE

so delightful in appearance, so attractive in design, and the material is so rich that wherever it is worn it commands attention.

A handsome Frock offered you on terms you can afford and which allows you to be dressed equal to any lady in the room — a charming Dance Frock or for Evening Wear, nothing better could be chosen—the quality is good—the silky Artificial Crepe-de-Chine is delightful to look at, and its wearing quality is all you could wish for—it makes dancing a joy—your visit to a Whist Drive, Theatre or Party a delight.

NO DEPOSIT.

It is our own exclusive design. with very smart Eton Collar with tassels—shaped long sleeves. Rows of Tuck Stitching on Front, Pleated Skirt, Front Buckle and Belt. Lengths 40, 42 and 44 ins. and to allow you to have one of these beautiful Crepe-de-Chine Frocks we offer it on the most generous terms. Simply send your name and address (no money) promise to pay 4/6 on delivery and 4/- monthly until 32/6 only is paid. Write for one to-day and say which colour we shall send you. Light Blue, Light Green, Peach, Fawn or Navy.

Price List of Dance Frocks Free.

MASTERS, LTD.,
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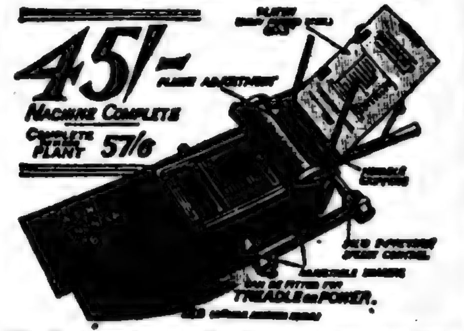
PRINTING MACHINE

NEW ALL-STEEL SUPER-MODEL.

45/- MACHINE COMPLETE

COMPLETE PLANT **57/6**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CAN BE FITTED FOR TREADLE or POWER.

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Over 16,000 users of Adana Printing Plants, saving enormously in their own work, and hundreds making an excellent living. Government Departments, Large Printers and Big Stores are amongst the many successful owners. Will print any matter from

CHEMIST'S LABEL to an ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE

at a really commercial speed, including Perforating, and Creasing. Simplicity to the extreme, no special skill required. Hundreds of boys producing school magazines. Real Printers' metal type, case, all complete accessories and fully illustrated instruction book included in plant. Two-coloured illustrated particulars and samples of work sent on receipt of stamp.

BUILT FOR COMMERCIAL USE.

Machines can be shipped abroad C.O.D. cash against documents in London. Goods F.O.R. Twickenham.

THE ADANA AGENCY

is a complete organisation for the supply of Printing Office Equipment of every description. Controlled by most highly skilled and long experienced men of the Printing world.

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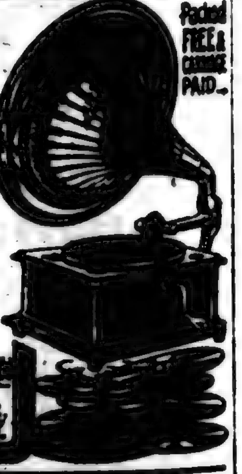
34, King Street, TWICKENHAM.

1/9 THAT'S ALL

& I send YOU a fine GRAMOPHONE with RECORDS

Packed FREE & CARRIAGE PAID.



MY FREE LISTS show the biggest and cheapest selection of the finest Horn and Hornless Models, any of which I will send on 14 DAYS' APPROVAL, with your own selection of Records. Write for a copy of my FREE LISTS now.

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THE WORLD'S PROVIDER,
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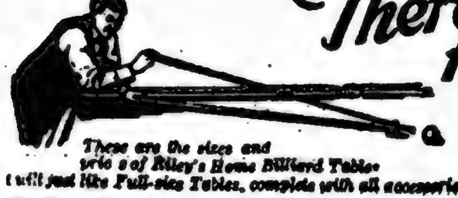


There's a RILEY Home Billiard Table for every house no matter how small the rooms!

These are the sizes and prices of Riley's Home Billiard Tables built just like Full-size Tables, complete with all accessories.

					or in 18 monthly payments of
4ft. 4in. x 2ft. 4in.	....	£7	0	0	8/6
5ft. 4in. x 2ft. 10in.	....	£9	0	0	11/-
6ft. 4in. x 3ft. 4in.	....	£11	15	0	14/-
7ft. 4in. x 3ft. 10in.	....	£15	0	0	18/-
8ft. 4in. x 4ft. 4in.	....	£20	10	0	[illegible]/-

Write To-day for FREE Price List.

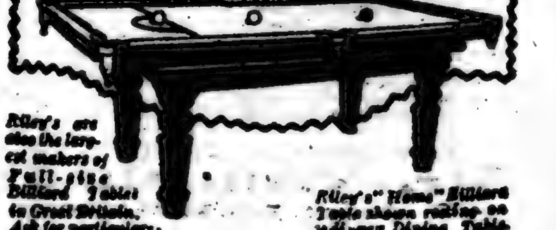
14/- DOWN By sending 14/- you can have the popular 6 ft. size "HOME" BILLIARD TABLE delivered free on 7 days' free trial. If not perfectly satisfied after the trial you are quite at liberty to return the table. If the 6 ft. size is not suitable for your room order one of the other sizes and pay as you play.

Riley's also make the famous Combine Billiard and Dining Tables which can in a few seconds be converted from dining table to billiard table or vice versa. Cash prices from £22 10 0 or on generous deferred payment terms.

RILEY'S GIVE 7 DAYS' FREE TRIAL, pay carriage and take all risks in transit.

E. J. RILEY, LTD., ARSON WORKS, ACCRINGTON, and Dept. 20, 147, Aldersgate St., London, E.C.1.

RILEYS GIVE 7 DAYS *free trial pay carriage and take all risks in transit*



Riley's are also the largest makers of Full-size Billiard Tables in Great Britain. Ask for particulars.

Riley's "Home" Billiard Table shown resting on ordinary Dining Table.

JOHN BULL Replies

THE Editor may be flippant on this page, but his humour is kindly, and never malicious. He likes to end up the week's work on a bright note. Serious questions are dealt with by the expert staff of our Free Advice Service.

• • •

D. N. (Shepperton).—" Is this letter too short ? " It couldn't be.

B. T. (Romford).—" I'd like to watch your office-boy at work." Impossible.

T. B. (Nuneaton).—" If you offend me I won't write again." How can we offend you ?

G. C. (Doncaster).—" I have signed the pledge." What a lot of money your pals will save.

A. L. (Chertsey).—" I've never heard a loud speaker in my life." Heartiest congratulations.

T. R. (Bungay).—" 1928 is here at last." Strange, but we must have got hold of the same almanack !

" **ASPIRANT** " (Ascot).—" Are there any secrets in the journalist profession ? " None to speak of.

S. G. (Edinburgh).—" He drowned his troubles in drink." Then they will surely float again.

F. E. (Leigh).—" It requires brains to make a living by working." But more to make one without.

WALTER (Crayford).—" Are Scots really mean ? " No. They even make jokes at their own expense.

J. L. M. (Leeds).—" Did you tell my wife I was a fool ? " No, she appeared aware of it, already.

G. T. (Fife).—" What is nicer than a rasher and an egg for breakfast ? " Two rashers and two eggs.

MISS D. (Hammersmith). — " What business had he to kiss me ?" None, we hope, but a pleasure.

M. K. J. (Swindon).—" I claim to be a dress expert." Knowing more and more of less and less.

G. S. (Brighton).—" The publican wouldn't change my cheque." Well, banks don't sell beer.

CLARENCE (Bude).—" My pet monkey is very intelligent." It is nice to have an exception in a family.

S. L. P. (Swanwick).—" I never win a single bet." What you put on doesn't come off, so to speak !

C. D. (Colvell).—" I can read your thoughts as you receive this letter." And you refuse to go there ?

G. M. (Bermondsey).—" Communists should get together." A good idea. And they should start soon.

T. L. P. (Ingleton).—" Instead of trusting odd numbers I rely on myself." But that trust is in number one.

T. R. (Saltaire).—" The road of life is strewn with obstacles." Look before you leap, but don't forget to leap.

WHAT about your income-tax ? Do you fully understand the forms sent out by the authorities ? Are you certain you are paying only a just demand ? If you are in doubt about any of these matters, send to JOHN BULL'S *Free Advice Service, enclosing stamped, addressed envelope, and experts will put you right. Now's the time to find out for sure.*

L. V. (Crewe).—" I am a bachelor by choice." Whose choice ?

A. N. (Ongar).—" We take in boarders." Then it's a wonder they stop.

M. V. (Southfield).—" I am growing fat and grey." Diet. Dye it.

T. B. (Amersham).—" Words cannot tell what I feel." Thank goodness !

L. N. (Cambridge).—" What is the best day to get married ? " To-morrow.

T. C. B. (Bognor).—" I despise myself." Who are we to question your judgment ?

G. N. (Islington).—" In London there is a powerful factor for the national good." We blush.

A. L. (Perth).—" Our new servant is all right." You're lucky. Most servants are all left.

J. N. (Leeds).—" I say again, I am no fool." Yes, yes. We disagreed with you the first time.

A. V. (Gosport).—" He got married on 15s. a week." Fools rush in where wise men fear to wed.

F. B. (Taplow).—" My wife never indulges in gossip." Oh ! Then what does she call it ?

B. T. (Drayton).—" I am forty years of age and have never had a doctor." Not even forty years ago ?

L. B. (Chester).—" My play will fill the audience with tears." But will it fill the tiers with audience ?

A. B. (Brighton).—" A week is the limit for eggs to remain fresh." After that the eggs are the limit.

MRS. D. (Dawlish).—" My dress got wet in the rain and has shrunk a bit." Now you can wear it as a sash.

A. T. (Rochester).—" I am determined to embrace all opportunities." That's right. But don't hug delusions.

A. N. (Bishopsgate).—" 1928 will be a busy year." If that's the case it's just as well there's an extra day in it.

B. R. (Baldock).—" Do you burn much coal in your office ? " No, only about 30 lb. out of every ton delivered.

T. B. (Chenies).—" I've painted a picture of her and a thousand wouldn't buy it." We're one of the thousand.

T. B. (Roehampton).—" My son says he wants to be a politician." He's probably just passing through a morbid phase.

DORIS (Liverpool).—" I'm not so young as I used to be." How extraordinary. Most girls are even younger than that.

A. U. R. (Preston).—" I was invited to a fancy-dress dance, but had nothing to wear." Then why didn't you go as New Year's Eve ?

MAISIE (Northampton).—" I enclose my photograph." If it's like you we sympathise. It if isn't, you have our congratulations.

A. W. (Penge).—" There are few things about engineering that I don't know." How do you calculate the horse-power of a donkey engine ?

G. R. (Leeds).—" It is now possible to extract music from the air." The jazz composers have long succeeded in extracting all the air from music.

L. N. (Bucks).—" I don't approve of your paper." Nevertheless, with unflinching courage, we are producing another issue on Wednesday next

S. K. (East Ham).—" I invented this joke." How did you leave Noah ?

BILL (Hornsey).—" I am sending you my girl's photograph." Our sympathy.

BARBER (Stoke).—" What's wrong with pantomime jokes ? " They want shaving.

N. B. (Waterford).—" I stopped him from beating the donkey." Brotherly love ?

R. V. (Twyford).—" Wisdom comes with age." Yes. Time will remedy your complaint.

J. S. (Camden Town).—" She accepted me last night." Now you can afford cheaper seats.

T. T. J. (Northallerton).—" At what angle shall I approach the problem ? " At the Try Angle.

H. G. (Middlesbrough).—" I give you the advice free." We should go bankrupt if we took it.

A. A. M. (Bedford).—" He noticed a new face when I attended the meeting." Had you washed it ?

B. A. M. (Kendal).—" Will you read my head if I call ? " We don't want splinters in our fingers.

C. J. (Reading).—" It's jolly hard to borrow these days." But a darned sight harder to pay back.

R. T. (Twickenham).—" Face-powder can catch any man." But it needs baking-powder to hold him.

B. McL. (Aberdeen).—" He cleaned my boots outside my bedroom door." Were you holding on to the laces ?

H. F. (Sheffield).—" The best motto I know is, ' Don't worry ! ' " The best we know is, " Don't worry us ! "

S. T. (Wellington).—" Do you know to what I attribute my longevity ? " To the fact that you haven't died ?

MRS. P. J. (Southend).—" I purchased my carpet by the yard." But we wager it will be worn out by the foot.

G. H. (Cardiff).—" Are 1726 pennies really worth a pound ? " No ; but 1928 pennies are worth £8 0s. 8d.

YANK (Fleet Street).—" Guess your women look better in a dim light." Calculate you look best in a fog.

MRS. C. H. (Leeds). — " Would you advise me to stop trying *Bullets ?* I have only won four " Targets." Well, madam, our last £1,500 winner had only scored " Targets " before. Are you going to let her beat you ?

W. P. (Rugby).—" I asked my fiancée if there was insanity in her family." Since she's your fiancée, why ask ?

D. C. (Stokesley).—" Have you smoked a green cigar ? " No, but we've seen the green faces of those who have.

A. H. (Bristol).—" Never count your chickens before they're hatched." Nor the Lincoln horses before they'rescratched.

J. P. (Sydenham).—" People who scoffed at the beginning of aviation were wrong." Those who persevered were Wright.

D. N. (Victoria).—" It is suggested that speeches in the House of Commons should be limited to fifteen minutes." It is quite enough, although an expert politician can say nothing at all for a much longer period.

M. F. (Ongar).—" Reckless drivers must go." Yes ; but not quite so fast.

PROUD FATHER (Sydenham).—" My baby boy is the image of me." Poor kiddie !

G. M. (Southall).—" I intend to keep pigs." You feel you will be at home with them ?

D. D. (Oxford).—" I'm going to stand up for myself now." In that case you can't go on lying.

F. A. J. (Kew).—" I make all my dresses from odds and ends." And which end looks oddest ?

G. T. (Paddington).—" Her touch seems to thrill me through every nerve." She must be a lady dentist !

MRS. V. (Lockington).—" He'd died and there was I looking for him high and low." Well, where else could you look ?

JESSICA (Tamworth).—" I find my lines are cast in pleasant places." And how many poor fish have you caught ?

MARY (Waterhouses).—" I take things very philosophically." You'll feel less philosophical if caught taking them.

T. N. (Fulham).—" With joyous steps we speed our way ! " We started like that during the recent frost and landed on our back.

J. L. (Merton).—" I had to give the conjurer supper at my children's party, and he drank up nearly all my whisky." You must remember that it's his job to make things disappear.

(Many replies unavoidably held over.)

Sip it
Drink it
Drain it
STONE'S
GINGER WINE

AFTER A WOMAN IS 30.

At thirty a woman may reasonably expect to enjoy good health, having then overcome the troubles of early womanhood yet being free of the later trials of middle age; but various causes tend to undermine the strength of many women of thirty.

Foremost among these causes are the cares of motherhood and household worries, which have a depressing effect on a woman's regular health and nervous system; then, again, women in business are often similarly afflicted, for overwork, business anxieties, and too little rest thin the blood and give rise to much suffering. Amongst the symptoms of thin blood are headache, backache, weakness, and poor appetite.

All run-down conditions call for richer, better blood; good blood is red blood, and on this a woman's health depends. The best of good red blood is created by Dr. Williams' pink pills, and this is why these pills enjoy their reputation among women. They are the tonic best adapted for women's needs.

So avail yourself of the health-help of Dr. Williams' pink pills. Of all chemists, 3s. 0d. box.

FREE.—No woman should miss reading the booklet "Nature's Warnings," sent free to all who write to C. G. Dept., 36, Fitzroy Square, London, W.1.

FOR A COUGH -do this

Rub Musterole on throat and chest. The tingling warmth of this clean, white ointment heals the soreness and loosens the cough. At all chemists.

MUSTEROLE WILL NOT BLISTER MUSTEROLE FINE PRODUCTS CO LTD

Like Shelling Peas
to roll your own cigarettes with

ZIG-ZAG CIGARETTE PAPERS

The Final Selection is SHARP'S SUPER-KREEM TOFFEE 6D PER 1/4 lb

"The Greatest of These . . . ."

Broken Props

When Mothers' Expectations Fail

A PICTURE of the family life at Nazareth is given in a simple little Epiphany poem in which the following lines occur:

> "Is thy labour very lowly?
> Brother, see, at Nazareth
> He swept the floor for Mary."

From childhood to the age of thirty, Mary's Son must have worked at the carpenter's bench, to help support His mother and Joseph, just as many sons, when they leave school, begin to earn money to support themselves, and, if possible, to repay a little of the sacrifice their parents have undergone for them.

But, alas! it so often happens, just as the lad has started work, he falls ill and, instead of being a help, is but an added drag on the slender family resources.

We give one case out of many brought to our notice in one week:

A mother appeals to us, because she is in trouble and does not know where to turn for help. "I have two boys," she states, "one working when he can, for he is in ill-health. Sometimes he can work, but not enough to keep himself, and at times he is ill for six months at a stretch.

"And I have another boy, aged seventeen, who has been an invalid since birth. I can't see my way to give my son what he ought to have as regards cod-liver oil and malt."

The doctor, who confirms her statements, adds: "One of her sons is very weak mentally, but he has been working as a shepherd. The other son suffers from advanced tuberculosis."

And so the struggle goes on and on for many a poor mother who had hoped for a little ease—a little respite from care—when her sons left school.

At such times, the "Greatest of These——" Fund is glad to take the son's part, and "Sweep the floor for Mary." But this is not possible without support.

When subscriptions are received, JOHN BULL delights in giving a helping hand to the helpless, without deducting a penny for the administrative expenses of the fund.

"The Greatest of These—"

Registered under the War Charities Act as the JOHN BULL *War Sufferers' Fund. All cheques should be made payable to the Fund, and donations addressed to the Hon. Secretary, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Every penny that is subscribed to "The Greatest of These—" Fund goes to give help to the needy. All the expenses of administration are borne by* JOHN BULL.

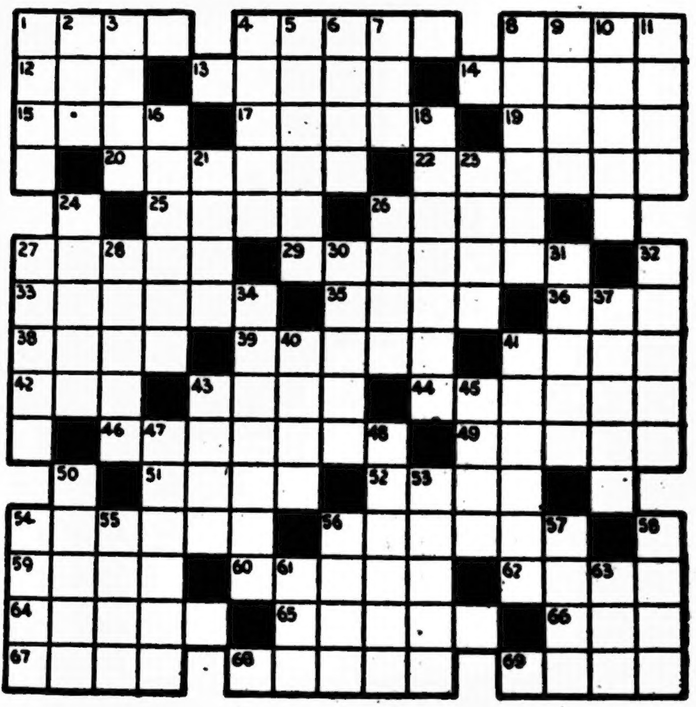
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mr. F. H. Winter (Southsea), 1s.; Baby Neville (Maresfield), 2s.; E. B. Newton, 5s.; E. T. York, 3s.; One Eighth (Holyhead), 2s. 6d.; Sparks (Byker), 2s.; J. M. C. (Belfast), 6d.; A. T. (Merton), 5s.; Grateful, 10s.; Miss Mary Cooper, 6s.; Mrs. M. Budge, 6s. 6d.; Mrs. R. Batchelor (Watford), 10s.; J. E. S. (Forest Gate), 1s.; In His Steps (Shoreham-by-Sea), 2s. 6d.; H. Worth (S.W.1), 1s.; F. Dyer (Newbury), 1s.; Harold Hunt, 1s. 3d.; Human Motto, 6d.; In Loving Memory of Little Doffy, 5s.; J. E. S., 1s.; Miss M. Redford (Uckfield), 10s.; E. F., 2s. 6d.; In Loving Memory of Harry, 5s.; R. M. (Beaufort Street), 2s. 6d.; L. and C. A., 5s.; T. B. (Southport), 2s.; Forest Sider (Epping), 5s.; E. Perrett, 9d.; Cymro, 10s.; M. S., 1s.; Mother and Son, 3s. 6d.; Dan's Kid, 1s.; Mr. E. M. Rowlands (Liverpool), 2s.; Mrs. M. R. Johnson (Shetland), 1s.; Grandma Potter, 10s.; Mabel Cook (Oxford) 2s.; L. W. Temple, 2s.; Hopeful Competitor, 3s.; W. Neiser (Grangemouth), 10s.; A. E. W. (Merton), 10s.; Grateful Heart, 2s.; Mr. E. C. Mayhew (Chelsea), 10s.; Love One Another (Swindon), 2s.; Anon. (Wallasey), 1s.; Mrs. A. Kerr, 5s.; Mr. G. A. Thorogood, 2s. 6d.; Mr. Williams (Earlsfield), 5s.; Mr. E. Jones (Stanley, Liverpool), 1s. 3d.; Mr. F. Holt (Kirkdale), 1s.; The Merry Crew, 8s.; Mr. S. F. Smith (Rochdale), £5; Mr. J. H. Adams (Ilton), 1s.; A Labourer, 2s. 6d.; With Love, 1s.; E. M. Beckett (West Ham), 6s. 6d.; E. Cripps (Plumstead), 5s.; ?, 4s. 4½d.; O. Hayes (New Bosford), 10s.; F. W. Webber (Southend-on-Sea), £2.

(Many acknowledgments unavoidably held over.)

Our Cross-Word Corner

No Two-Letter Words!



CLUES DOWN

1. Make believe.
2. Vessel.
3. Cease.
4. Character.
5. A rope.
6. Be carried.
7. Poem.
8. Three in one.
9. Space.
10. Change.
11. Scheme.
16. Throat gland.
18. Kind of rose.
21. Mislay.
23. Dungeon.
24. Serious.
26. Delete.
27. To feel one's way.
28. Separate.
30. Custom.
31. Railway station.
32. Aqua pura.
34. Revolved.
37. English flowers.
40. A levy.
41. Bullion.
43. Residence.
45. Throw out.
47. Pertaining to the nose.
48. Fraud.
50. Brownish colour.
53. Covered approach.
54. Pageantry.
55. Relate.
56. A pace.
57. A vault.
58. Useless plant.
61. Before.
63. Proceed against.

CLUES ACROSS

1. Bother.
4. Cast.
8. Light vehicle.
12. Skill.
13. Cotton band.
14. Comic.
15. Difficult question.
17. Tree.
19. A jot.
20. Polished.
22. Sagacity.
25. Diplomatic communication.
26. Sign.
27. Herbage.
29. Slang for "found out."
33. A sword.
35. Window ledge.
36. An age.
38. Famous cricket-ground.
39. To harangue.
41. Place.
42. By means of.
43. Hunted animal.
44. Rest.
46. Entertained.
49. That which measures.
51. To abhor.
52. Heroic.
54. Small in figure.
56. Scotland.
59. Overt.
60. Prevent.
62. Gaelic.
64. Italian city.
65. German for "Empire."
66. A hint.
67. To make vapid.
68. Intensity.
69. Discarded.

The solution of our last week's Puzzle will be found on page 40

RESULT of "Familiar Friends" Competition (1927).

Mr. A. J. Perkins, of Merton Park, S.W.19, wins £10 for the best answer in the whole competition with the following entry:—*Bullet*:—Why is Mr. Langham like Christopher Columbus? *Answer*:—Because he severed his connection with "earth" trusting only to the "waves," and after overcoming great difficulties, discovered a "New World" for us.

Cash prizes of 21/- each have been awarded to the following:—Mr. F. Fisk, of Norwich; Mr. A. Stanley, of Eastbourne; Mr. C. W. Lee, of Liverpool; Mr. G. H. Hope, of Polegate; Mr. S. Evans, of Manchester; Mr. H. Whitelegg, of Birmingham; Miss I. L. Rawsey, of Eastbourne.

NOTE.—The same answer to No. 5 was sent in by three competitors, but it was considered so apt that we decided to give two extra prizes of 21/- rather than divide the prize.

Full addresses and entries may be seen at this Office.

Philip Emanuel, *Advertisement Director*,
ODHAMS PRESS LTD., 57-59, Long Acre, W.C.2.

"BULLETS" RULES.

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness, and originality.

2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon, and a postal order must be enclosed at the rate of 6d. for each coupon made use of. This must be made payable to JOHN BULL, and crossed and Co. Competitors must write their names and addresses and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Coupons must not be mutilated.

3. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges.

4. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Employees of Odhams Press are not eligible to compete.

The World's

The great success of Zam-Buk for skin troubles lies in its original and valuable formula. Zam-Buk contains certain extracts of herbal origin so blended as to bring out amazing healing power.

GREATEST

This unique balm when applied to the skin penetrates the pores, and not only heals from *below*, but on the surface as well. Zam-Buk is most soothing and a safe antiseptic, thereby stopping pain and preventing blood-poison.

HEALER

Unlike coarse lardy ointments and salves, Zam-Buk gets at *the root* of obstinate ulcers, piles, poisoned wounds, festering sores, ringworm, eczema, etc. It purifies the tissues, destroys disease germs, and makes the whole skin healthy.

1/3 & 3/- a box.

Zam Buk
HERBAL BALM
"RUB IT IN"

Of all Chemists.

BRITISH FEB 28

£600 'BULLETS' RECORD DOUBLE FIRST!

FOR ONE WEEK ONLY

SECOND PRIZE £50

10 PRIZES OF £5

THIRD PRIZE £25

10 PRIZES OF £2-10

100 PRIZES OF 10/-

8,000 'TARGET' PRIZES

1,000 PRIZES OF 2/6

RESULT OF 'BULLETS' COMPETITION No. 661.

FIRST PRIZE OF £500:

Mr. J. HOLDEN, 476, Leigh Road, Daisy Hill, Westhoughton, Lancs.

Example :—PLAYMATES
Bullet :—BUYING HOOP—LATER, RING.

SECOND PRIZE OF £50:

Miss M. S. CONDIE, 102, Cambridge Rd., Kilburn, N.W.

Example :—A DIFFERENT MATTER
Bullet :—WHEN SEA VISITS US.

THIRD PRIZE OF £25:

Mrs. K. CULVERWELL, "[illegible]," Union Lane, St. Albans.

Example :—HIS EPITAPH
Bullet :—WOULD HAVE SECURED JOB.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon).

10 Prizes of £5 each:

T. R. EYER, Rose Cottage, High Street, Totton, Southampton.
MAKES MY BLOOD BOIL—GOVERNMENT'S TROUBLES, MY KIT-BAG.

C. E. FOWLER, High Road, Hockley, Essex.
AMERICA'S MONEY—YANKEE'S "ALTAR"—EUROPE'S "CROSS."

S. T. GROVES, 9, Blucher Street, Chesham, Bucks.
AMERICA'S MONEY—ONLY "RESERVE" SHE SHOWS.

M. PUNTON, 7, Surtees Terrace, Craghead, Co. Durham.
WHAT IS INDUSTRY?—"INVALID" NEEDING "PROSPERITY'S SUN."

G. H. SANDOR, Elmbridge Road, Gloucester.
CAT AND DOG—MUSTN'T REPLACE "PEACE BABY."

H. SMITH, 14, Cranstoun Street, Northampton.
SOME PEOPLE THINK—WELL—OTHERS, WELL! WELL!

W. STEELE, Horton Grange, Seaton Burn, Newcastle.
CAT AND DOG—AND DOVE—GENEVA PROBLEM.
(Entered on "Target" Prize coupon.)

W. TAYLOR, 12, Swarbrick Street, Kirkham.
WORDS OF WISDOM—RETAIN VALUE WHEN "SECOND-HAND."

Mrs. A. TOBBELL, Bates Houses, Blaydon-on-Tyne.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH RUSSIA—"INVALID" CONVINCED SHE'S "PHYSICIAN."

F. WOOSMAN, Picturedrome Hall, Rhos, Wrexham.
A GOOD OMEN—CIGARS, SHAG, SAME ASH-TRAY.

10 Prizes of £2 10s. each:

A. F. BRIGGS, 12, Paulton Avenue, Bristol.
WASTING WORDS—PARENTS—YOUTH'S HEART "SPEAKING."

Mrs. A. BROADBENT, Slack Cote, Delph, Nr. Oldham.
DARK DIPLOMACY—"FOG"—PEACE SHIP "RAMMED."

Mrs. S. CORNELL, 2, Henry Street, Hartlepool.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH RUSSIA—"UNSOUND MIND" FOLLOWING "SUICIDE."

V. CRUIKSHANKS, 75, Old Elm Street, Ardwick.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH RUSSIA—RED TONGUE—"*Unhealthy* STATE."

F. H. LUKE, 107, Tennyson Avenue, Motspur Park, Surrey.
HOUSE-KEEPING MONEY—SO MUCH DOWN *Weekly*.

L. H. MOGRIDGE, "St. Ives," Knowle Lane, Brentry, Nr. Bristol.
AT THE JOURNEY'S END—*Government* NEEDN'T APPLY BRAKES.

(*Continued on page 4*).

How to Make "Bullets."

HAVE you tried your hand at making *Bullets*? All you have to do is this. Select any of the *Examples* below—then give any TWO, THREE, or FOUR words with some bearing upon it. Three recent big Prize-winners were:—

Example :—BALDWIN'S PROBLEM
Bullet :—WHERE WIFE HIDES MATCHES.

Example :—OUR HEROES
Bullet :—WORKLESS—HOMELESS—PENNILESS—NEVERTHELESS——

Example :—IF I WERE FORD
Bullet :—I'D "KEEP IT QUIET."

ENCLOSE A POSTAL ORDER AT THE RATE OF 6d. FOR EACH COUPON USED—See rule 2.

EXAMPLES FOR "BULLETS" 664.

BRITONS
FAMILY OF NATIONS
FIGHTING FOR EXISTENCE
NEGLECTED
THE BALLOT-BOX
OUR JUDGES
TOO MUCH WATER
REAL RELIGION
PEACE AND QUIETNESS
MAKES MATTERS WORSE
A SINGLE MAN
AT THE CROSS-ROADS
THANKS TO LABOUR
"I LOVE YOU!"
FOOLISH QUESTION
THE WHOLE TRUTH
WHAT A MAN SAYS
OLD FRIENDS
WISE MOVE
CLOTHES
FATHER'S HOBBY
EASILY
CUTTING PRICES
BARGAIN-HUNTING
JOB I'D LIKE
TOO MUCH TO EXPECT
IN SIGHT
GOOD WORKMANSHIP
OUGHT TO BE SCRAPPED
BURDEN OF DEBT
IN OUR HANDS
WHAT IS CIVILISATION?

☞ **Address Coupons to "Bullets" No. 664, "John Bull," Long Acre, London, W.C.2. (Comp.)**

Closing Date, Thursday, Jan. 26.
Example ____
Bullet ____
Example ____
Bullet ____
(664) P.O. No. ____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 38. With 1 Coupon, send P.O. for 6d.
Signed ____
Address ____

Closing Date, Thursday, Jan. 26.
Example ____
Bullet ____
Example ____
Bullet ____
(664) P.O. No. ____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 38. With 2 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s.
Signed ____
Address ____

Use Two, Three or Four words. **Enter name and address on each coupon**

Closing Date, Thursday, Jan. 26.
Example ____
Bullet ____
Example ____
Bullet ____
(664) P.O. No. ____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 38. With 3 Coupons, send P.O. for 1s. 6d.
Signed ____
Address ____

Closing Date, Thursday, Jan. 26.
Example ____
Bullet ____
Example ____
Bullet ____
(664) P.O. No. ____
I agree to enter this Competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on page 38. With 4 Coupons, send P.O. for 2s.
Signed ____
Address ____

☞ **If you wish to send in further "Bullets" you can write them on plain paper.**

The original cheque for £250 awarded to the First Prize-winner in "Bullets" Competition No. 660 will be shown in the window of Mrs. Williamson, Wood Street, Maryport.

SPECIAL NEWSAGENTS' PRIZES.—Cheques for £5, £2 and £1 respectively will be paid to the Newsagents from whom the winners of the three chief "Bullets" Prizes in Competition No. 664 have purchased their copies of "John Bull."

NEXT WEEKS HUGE OFFER

1,000 GUINEAS

FIRST PRIZE AND LONG 'GUINEAS' PRIZE-LIST.

CICFA

Removes the Cause of INDIGESTION In both Stomach and Bowel

Because it supplies the Natural Digestive Ferments.

The Cause of Indigestion is always lack of Natural Digestive Ferments in the Stomach and in the Bowel.

When those Ferments are deficient in the Stomach, the Albuminous foods like eggs, meat, etc., are not digested, with consequent Heartburn, Acidity and discomfort.

When those Ferments are deficient in the Bowel, the Starchy foods like bread, beans, potatoes and bananas are not digested there, with consequence Flatulence, Bilious symptoms and the misery of Constipation.

When CICFA is taken, Digestion becomes normal in both Stomach and Bowel, with gradual disappearance of Pressure, Acidity, Flatulence and Constipation, because CICFA SUPPLIES the NATURAL DIGESTIVE FERMENTS.

That is why CICFA REMOVES THE CAUSE OF INDIGESTION.

Indigestion Symptoms.

Sharp Neuralgic Headaches. ☛
Acid in Stomach with Heartburn. ☛
Tongue Coated in front. ☛
Complexion blemishes. ☛
Appetite variable. ☛
Pains darting through chest. ☛
Burning Spot behind Left Shoulder Blade. ☛

☚ **Dull Heavy Headaches.**
☚ **Acidity causing Gout and Rheumatism.**
☚ **Tongue coated at back.**
☚ **Complexion impaired.**
☚ **Eating disliked. Biliousness.**
☚ **Pain and Constipation.**

"Gentlemen,—I write this to let you know I have been taking Cicfa tablets for chronic pains in the chest and stomach after eating, and have been a different man ever since I started using them. I have been taking them about seven weeks, and they are the best things I have ever used in my life for the chest and stomach complaints.

"I worked in misery and pain for weeks before I started using your Cicfa tablets. I had tried so many other medicines and none of them had done me any good at all, and I began to give up hope of getting any better. My wife can vouch for this being true. I used to have pains if I only ate bread and butter, and now I can eat anything. I begin to feel now that life is worth living after all. I can tell you life is not worth much when you are at work day after day in pain, but since I started taking your tablets I can work and be happy at it, and laugh and joke with my mates.

"You may make what use you like of this letter. I am a working man in a Nursery, and I am digging most of my time.

"Yours truly (Signed) E. JOHNS."

THOUSANDS OF BRITISH DOCTORS *have already taken up Cicfa, and hundreds of them have written us of the very satisfactory results which they have obtained by its use upon themselves, in their families and in practice. When so many British Doctors are satisfied with Cicfa, you can confidently begin taking it at once.*

Sold Everywhere. Prices 1/3 and 3/-.

THE CICFA CO.,
8, DUKE ST., MANCHESTER SQ., LONDON, W.1

"John Bull" 21/1/28

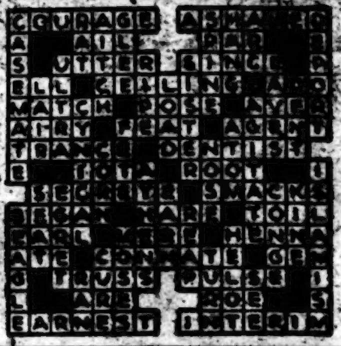
"JOHN BULL'S" GUARANTEE.

EVERY article advertised in "John Bull" carries with it a "money-back" guarantee. Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona fides of all advertisements in "John Bull." All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked—

In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects. Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in "John Bull," and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

ODHAMS PRESS LTD., Proprietors of "John Bull."

Coughing?
GALLOWAY'S COUGH SYRUP will stop it!!
Sold by all Chemists & Stores, Price 1/3 and 2/6 per bottle



Solution to the Cross-word Puzzle in our last issue

This week's puzzle is on page 38

Bald Men Grow Hair

Amazing Hair Growth on Bald Heads After Using Kotalko the Genuine Hair-Grower. Not a Medicine. Rub on the Scalp where New Hair is Desired.

Was Quite Bald

Torrington, N. Devon.

After trying different Treatments without result, I was very disappointed, and thought I should be bald all my life, or else have to wear a wig.

Then I read about Kotalko, and decided to give it a trial. Please bear in mind that I was quite bald and my head was as shiny as could be when I started using your compound.

After I had used about two tins I found I had got hair coming all over my head. I continued to use it, and now I have got a good head of hair again, as shown in the photograph.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) F. TUCKER.

Full Growth of Hair

Dublin.

When I began using Kotalko I was bald. At the sides over the ears, and at the back, there was some hair, but on the whole of the crown of my head, from the forehead backwards, there was no hair at all.

I used Kotalko on the scalp until I noticed signs of a slight down on parts of the head. Then I knew the roots were not dead after all, so I went on using Kotalko, and gradually the down changed into real hair which kept on growing, until at last the whole of my head was covered with a full growth of hair in its natural colour just as it used to be.

Everyone who knows me has been surprised at seeing the hair growing again, and several of my friends have already ordered Kotalko, and are highly satisfied with it.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) Thomas Hayes

A multitude of others, men and women, have used the remarkable compound—Kotalko, with astonishing and delightful benefit in removing scurf, stopping the falling out of hair, and in developing a new growth. This has been done in many cases where the baldness existed for years, and when many other hair tonics, lotions, medicinal treatments, etc., had been unsuccessfully tried.

100,000 TESTING BOXES

KOTALKO
TRUE HAIR GROWER

A distribution of 100,000 testing boxes is now being made to those who apply—only one box to one person—either sex. To obtain a box it will only be necessary to send threepence in stamps to the address below.

SEND OR COPY THIS COUPON

Please send me, post paid, Testing Box of KOTALKO with directions, for which I enclose 3d. in stamps.

NAME ....
ADDRESS ....
....

JOHN HART BRITTAIN, Ltd., 2, Percy St. (53 L.H.), LONDON, W.1.

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